From:
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2010 8:29 PM

To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty

**Subject:** Comments on the Joint Strategic Plan

Follow Up Flag: Follow up Flag Status: Flagged

Re: Comments on the Joint Strategic Plan Victoria Espinel Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator Office of Management and Budget Executive Office of the President Filed via email Dear Ms. Espinel: The most significant threat to the country by copyright infringement is the stifling of valuable social, technological, and artistic innovation. As portfolio owners continue to lobby for and receive extensions to the term of copyright the public is effectively locked out of more and more of our shared history and culture. "Fair use" of media has been significantly eroded and the various, repeated, and constant threats of lawsuits even for fair uses of media have created a chilling environment that are stifling cultural and artistic development. Technology has not only made it easier to commit infringing acts, but made it easier to find and enforce existing copyrights (like youtube's content scanning) even in domains, like homemade remix videos made to be shared among friends, where, in the past, this non-commercial "infringement" would have been simply ignored because there was no way to detect it and did no harm to the rights-holder anyway. Rightsholders (like myself!) need to remember that the purpose of copyright was to encourage creation of new materials by granting exclusivity for a limited time after which time those materials would be added to the sum of our collective knowledge. With laws like the Sonny Bono Copyright Extension Act ("The Mickey Mouse Protection Act") extending copyrights for truly ridiculous amounts of time and technology able to (even without the aid of a human!) track down and prosecute infringers, the pendulum of copyright law has swung too far in the direction of right-holders and and too far away from the common good it was intended to serve. Sincerely, Nathan Fullerton

Nathan W. Fullerton

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Availability schedule: http://ical.me.com/nathanf/Nathan's%20Availability (need a longer block of time? call or text me!)

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