

From:
To: [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)
Subject: Photographer"s Copyright
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 3:21:15 PM
Attachments: [Email Signature.png](#)
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Dear Ms. Espinel,

I have been a professional photographer for over 30 years. I constantly marvel at the amazing foresight of those that created the first copyright laws. Strong copyright law is one of the most powerful forces for innovation and prosperity in this great nation. It is the reason that I am able to make a living doing what I love, shooting photographs. Without strong copyright laws, I could little afford to work as hard as I do to market my work to clients and prospective clients. I would not be able to put the time and energy into each image that I create. I could not weather the inevitable ups and downs of the business I run. Because of copyright laws I can license my work for a fee that fits the budget of my clients and I can then relicense the work to other clients to fit within their budgets as well. And I am able to profit from my work in proportion to the energy, imagination, time, risk and money that I pour into my photography business.

Copyright law is one of the most important ways that this country can continue to create dynamic works of art, both commercial and non-commercial. Let's not weaken it for the sake of those that want to profit on our own work at our expense and at the expense of this country. In this world where more and more labor is being shipped overseas, intellectual property is and will continue to be one of the most valuable assets that we can own, to sustain ourselves against the rising tide of competition. It is our imagination, our ideas, our intellectual property that will continue the remarkable tradition of innovation that this country has created. Weakening the copyright laws will sap an important source of energy from our economy and our entrepreneurial spirit.

Thank you for your time and effort on behalf of photographers, for whom intellectual property and copyright law give us an amazing way to make a living. And your efforts in support of strong copyright law enables us to contribute to the visual as well as economic quality of life in this country.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Hillyer