

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 15, 2010 4:49 PM
To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Subject: Comments on the Joint Strategic Plan

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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:

First of all, you'd have far less to enforce if we stopped extending copyright ad infinitum. We've far exceeded any reasonable period of protection for most works. We are creating another unwinnable war where every citizen is going to wind up a criminal.

Any plans or agreements on IP enforcement, like the proposed Anti Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) should be made open and transparent. In dealing with questions of copyright and the Internet, too much is at stake for our country's laws and policies to be made out of the public eye.

Measures like cutting off Internet access in response to alleged copyright infringement can do more harm than good. Internet connections are not merely entertainment or luxuries; they provide livelihood, vital communication links, often including basic phone service. This is even more clearly unfair in cases where users are falsely or mistakenly accused.

The anti-circumvention provisions of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act can criminalize users who are simply trying to make legal uses of the media they have bought. Breaking digital locks on media should not be a crime unless they are being broken for illegal purposes. The government should not spend its resources targeting circumventions for legitimate purposes.

Sincerely,

Joseph C. Indresano