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The NPPA has informed me of this welcome invitation to share with the Obama administration my thoughts on my rights as a creator.

The copyright law needs to be enforced and tightened. The Orphan works law is a perfect example of legislation that needs to be put down. It is misleading. Of course, people want to help Orphans and will do anything they can without reading what it is about. The fact that a 15 year old can steal a photo and put it on his website with no credit and the image is orphaned. Anyone can take it and they can say "We tried to find out who it belonged to". Then you, the copyright holder show up and they want to pay you \$10.00. After all , your work is not that valuable.

I actually had someone say that to me yesterday. After i embarrassed him in front of his peers, he still thinks it's ok to steal photos and all he has to pay if caught is about a dollar.

I litigated a few cases where people thought it was a good idea to steal my images. They were wrong. They paid many more times the going rate.

You can take an aggressive stance towards those that would steal from a creator. Innocent infringement is when someone says they are sorry and pays.

Imagine the headlines when 500 people arrested for stealing material from the internet. When the copyright holder comes forward, they can pay damages plus the cost of the prosecution. After repeated headlines of infringer pays 10 to 15 thousand in fines and costs it would dissuade someone else from doing this.

Plus those that thumb their noses are most probably involved in a much larger criminal enterprise.

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