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**To:** [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty; info@copyrightalliance.org](mailto:FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty; info@copyrightalliance.org)  
**Subject:** Intellectual Property is Important for Artists  
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The Copyright Alliance has informed me of this welcome invitation from the Obama Administration to share my thoughts on my rights as a creator.

As a freelance photographer and videographer for the past 30 years, I have personally encountered several situations where my copyright has been violated. Many of these cases could be dealt with in a deliberate and rational manner, but in some of the most flagrant violations, it was apparent to me that a much larger organization had a tremendous advantage in the current legal system. I would hope that there might be some provision made for this fact, so that larger and wealthier organizations and corporations could not abuse the legal system by making it too expensive for small creators to pursue action against them.

Another difficulty arises when trying to track unpublished versus published materials - especially in regard to photography. The most efficient method for registration right now is group registration 90 days prior to publication. Yet, this group registration might be seen by the court as only one copyright registration, despite the many different creative works in the group copyright registration. It would be helpful to clarify that multiple images in one group registration each have their own protection and that penalties would accrue for the unlawful use of each and every separate image.

Thank you,

Edward McCain  
President  
McCain Creative, Inc.

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Edward McCain  
McCain Photography  
<http://www.mccainphoto.com>  
Stock:  
<http://archive.mccainphoto.com/c/mccainphoto>  
"Life is an affirmative action program"  
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