

From: [REDACTED]
To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Cc: info@copyrightalliance.org
Subject: Protect intellectual property!
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 3:41:33 PM

The Copyright Alliance has informed me of this welcome invitation from The Obama Administration to share my thoughts on my rights as a creator.

My name is Rod McLean. I'm photographer based in San Francisco, CA.
My copyright is at the core of my financial viability, as it is for all creators and inventors.

I firmly believe that not valuing intellectual property would have a huge impact on our nations economy and ingenuity.

Our great nation has a long history of innovative creators and inventors. This would not be the case if creators and inventors copyrights and patens were not honored.

I think that it would be safe to speculate that we would not enjoy many of our modern conveniences that we use on a daily basis, without patent and copyright protection. Everything from light bulbs, stereos, computers, telephones, medicine, music, movies, art and sculptures, magazines and books.

As a creator it is hard for me to understand why as a nation of innovation, would in good conscience choose to dilute the market with counterfeit items of lessor quality.

Before any bills are put into action, one should remember the works of Thomas Edison, Alexander Grand Bell, Henry Ford, Winslow Homer, Georgia O'Keeffe, Andy Warhol, Ansel Adams, Margaret Bourke-White, Mark Twain, John Steinbeck, Ray Charles, Jimi Hendricks, Martin Scorsese, Francis Ford Coppola, and the list goes on and on.

"Whenever a copyright law is to be made or altered, then the idiots assemble."
- *Mark Twain's Notebook*, 1902-1903

"The primary objective of copyright is not to reward the labor of authors, but '[t]o promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts.' To this end, copyright assures authors the right to their original expression, but encourages others to build freely upon the ideas and information conveyed by a work. This result is neither unfair nor unfortunate. It is the means by which copyright advances the progress of science and art."

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor
Feist Publications, Inc. v. Rural Telephone Service Co.
499 US 340, 349(1991)

Sincerely,

Rod McLean