

From:

Subject:

Date:

Please Protect Intellectual Property
Wednesday, March 24, 2010 10:45:01 AM

Hello,

ASMP and the Copyright Alliance have informed me of this welcome invitation from the Obama Administration to share my thoughts on my rights as a creator.

I earn the majority of my income on licensing my images as a photographer. The revenue generated from these licenses are critical to my survival and advantageous to my clients. My fees/licenses are based on value which take the form of a license. This always keeps my fees/licenses appropriate to the job. For example, an image for a local press release has less value than an image national ad campaign. Eliminating the license model, and my rights as an intellectual property owner, would cause all images I generate to become the property of the buyer w/o fair compensation.

The Orphan Works bill which fortunately has not been passed attempts to undermine the rights IP creators (individuals) in the name of progress. I support the use of my images in education but not in any profitable arena w/o compensation. Corporations are able to maintain their intellectual property rights, and so should individuals.

I believe websites should be held liable for their content. The owner of the website profits from ad revenue and other source, and content providers should have the right to profit from the use of their content. If it slows down how much youtube can post because of the review process, then so be it. The world will not be a lesser place because of this.

I believe that all intellectual property providers (with exception for employees) should have the right to not only own and license their intellectual property but to protect it as well. I have many cases of infringements on my copyright in the past ranging from small local businesses to large multinational firms who derives value and profits from my images. If I do not have the right to protect and pursue these unlicensed uses I simply cannot stay in business. The protection of intellectual property empowers the individual, which is the most fundamental element of our country. Disempower the individual would lead to the rapid decrease in the generation of creative content, which is one of the greatest strengths of this country.

Dave Moser
Photographer
Philadelphia, PA