From:

To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Subject: Joint Strategic Plan comments
Date: Monday, March 15, 2010 7:54:47 PM

Victoria Espinel
Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator
Office of Management and Budget
Executive Office of the President

Dear Ms. Espinel,

Copyright and Patent law have been perverted to the point that they are tools for corporations to stifle opposing creativity and innovation. Term limits are too long and irrelevant to the pace of current artistic and scientific innovation, fair use rights are being trampled, DRM software cripples the products bought by paying customers, and citizens have no idea where the legal boundaries are.

We need to brainstorm effective ways of balancing profit, creativity, innovation, progress, and user rights. These are not easy problems to solve, but the current proposed solutions only maximize profit. Worse, the monetary benefits will only by temporary, and will be done at the expense of the American economy and ultimately taxpayer. In fact, I would assert that the current problems with copyright violation are a direct result of the greed-motivated actions of the few. No one should have a claim to genetic material. Software algorithms, which anyone can derive mathematically, should not be subject to the same protections as a novel computing device. The current system is irrational, and worse, harmful to us both as a country and as individuals.

The three strikes law proposed in various countries is not a solution, and is frankly idiotic, violates the principle of innocent until proven guilty, and will not stop those who choose to violate the law. It will punish the innocent, and the criminals will only end up inconvenienced.

ISPs should not be asked to regulate the actions of their users, and privacy should be protected. The DMCA is horrifying, and prevents legal use of media consumers have paid for. Furthermore the fact that negotiations about these matters are being held in secret is terrifying. This needs to change.

Please listen to the people, we are simply asking not to be taken advantage of for the benefits of shareholders.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to following your progress.

Cory Rieth