

From: [REDACTED]
To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Cc: info@copyrightalliance.org
Subject: Intellectual Property Rights
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Our Creative Rights

"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 am writing to you as an independent freelance photographer for over thirty years. Writing to you as a member of the American Society of Media Photographers I can assure you there are thousands of others who have similar stories.

We often are commissioned by large companies who try to put pressure on us to *assign our rights away* and give them unlimited use of our images. Since we are independents with none of the benefits of corporate employees the protection of *individual intellectual property rights* are essential to our survival. Any legal initiative to diminish and strip away these rights are sadly detrimental to our survival.

Individual initiatives as ours (exercises in creativity) have been a cornerstone in making this country a world leader and innovator. Fortunately, in spite of the blinding technological advances the visual photographic image is impactful now as it has ever been!

I thank you in advance to your attention to one of our most important concerns.

Cordially,

Frank B Ritter

Independent Freelance Photographer

Member American Society of Media Photographer