

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](mailto:FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty)  
**Cc:** [info@copyrightalliance.org](mailto:info@copyrightalliance.org)  
**Subject:** Copyright law and infringement.  
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Ms. Espinel,

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 believe simplifying copyright laws would help to curb both inadvertent and willful infringement by making the laws more universal, accessible and easily understood.

For example, copyright law protects the livelihood of individual creative artists such as myself, but the full protection of these laws is given only upon registration of copyright. Therefore, the process of applying for copyright registration should be simplified so that everyone can easily obtain full protection for all their works.

Presently, there is a distinction between published and unpublished works, and the registration process differs for each. This causes unnecessary confusion, makes timing of registration submittals far too critical, increases costs, and adds other burdens to the registration process. Many works are at risk of not having their copyright registered because of the added complication and costs of submitting them properly as published or unpublished.

I believe the distinction between published and unpublished works should be eliminated. I can see no useful purpose in making the registration process different for published and unpublished works.

Thank you for considering my views.

Don Wong, ASMP  
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