

From: [REDACTED]
To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Cc: info@copyrightalliance.org
Subject: intellectual propoortey rights
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 10:09:09 AM

Dear Ms. Espinel and the Obama Administration

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. First, thank you for this opportunity to express my views on this matter. I am a professional and fine art photographer working in the Boston area since 198. If you want to learn more about me, please visit my web site at:

<http://brucetmartin.com/>

Given that we all overwhelmed with information, I will try to make my point quickly with a simple metaphor. Let's say you have a visitor come over to your house and appreciate a nice table that you own. Let's say this person upon leaving your house, decides that this nice piece of furniture would look better in their house than yours so they take it with them upon leaving. Most people would agree that this is stealing. Well, it is the same for photographs. just because someone can use another person's photograph, doesn't mean they have the right to use it. Photographs are often thought of as physical objects like fine pieces of craftsmanship that you can exhibit here or there but they are really much more, they are ideas translated into physical form called photographs. Photographers use all of our personal resources and finances in our efforts of creating our end results. In doing so, we put all of our time, experience and creativity into making our photographs in order to make unique, individual statements, revelations and insights for our community and world. We do this because we can communicate to our society issues that no other language or art form can can. For many photographers, the goal is to help society, improve communications and join in the variety of conversations in a way that only photographers can bring to the table. When someone or company is using our photographs that we made, own and protect without our permission, they are not negligently borrowing, they are clearing stealing. Without protection of our final results, the photograph and the ideas they contains, the chances for existence of profession of photography declines exponentially along with our efforts to to build a better world. Government has a choice, fight for those who believe in truth or for those who believe in stealing the truth.

I look forward to hearing your response to these ideas

Best Wishes

Bruce

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