

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Creative property rights  
**Date:** Wednesday, March 24, 2010 10:01:46 AM

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Dear Ms. Espinal:

"The North American Nature Photography Association has informed me of this welcome invitation from the Obama Administration to share my thoughts on my rights as a photographic image creator."

There have been significant attempts to change the copyright laws against all artistic creators. When I take a photograph with my camera, whether it is film or digital image capture, that photograph is supposed to be copyrighted at that time and protected from other persons or agencies without any consideration or compensation to that artistic creator and used without their permission.

Personally, I try to register my photographs with the United States Copyright Office, online. This is a new and upgraded system recently implemented. Their system can be long, intimidating and confusing to photographers who have made the transition from film to digital photography. Uploading the images assures the photographic creator the "best" protection against mis-use of their images.

I think the United States Government along with the United States Copyright Office should be able to put in place a system similar to the music industry to deter pirating of images. When a photograph is used without the creators permission, that individual should be compensated without a long drawn out court case. This specific system should allow the artistic creator these protected rights even if that photograph has not been registered with United States Copyright Office.

My stock photography agent in London, England, distributes monies from unauthorized photographic uses to all their photographers annually. This money, I believe, comes from a government fund set up to protect photographers, as they receive compensation from published work that was used without their permission.

It would be quite a challenge to set up such a system, but it is definitely needed in this "new electronic age" our world has embarked on.

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