From:	
To:	FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Cc:	info@copyrightalliance.org
Subject:	Copyright Infringement
Date:	Sunday, March 21, 2010 4:08:01 PM
Date:	Sunday, March 21, 2010 4:08:01 PM

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 a photographer with 30+ years experience, and the idea that Internet social networks assume to have rights to use images that appear in my user space, is an excellent example of copyright infringement. I don't mind if they use my images, but they should at a minimum contact me prior to doing so. Based on the visibility and usage context they plan to place the image in, I should be notified and compensated accordingly.

From my opinion, this is corporate piracy. Internet social networks have become so huge, that it is legally intimidating to even inquire. Their empires overshadow those in the fiefdom so darkly, that no one has the money to stand up for their rights, and rationally argue with them. It is a hopeless state of affairs to get compensation for my time and talent compared to previous decades of creating and selling commercially or editorially crafted works.

Intellectual property rights are the foundation of running a successful photographic business.

Don Werthmann Photographic Works Ann Arbor, Michigan

http://www.donwerthmann.com

-----