

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)  
**Subject:** BMI Award winning songwriter shares her experience :)  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 23, 2010 3:14:37 PM

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Dear Victoria:

I have been a professional songwriter for over 25 years, writing songs for other recording artists to record. I am also, my own music publisher. I have seen my income decrease over the years due to illegal downloading and have been on a crusade to educate people ever sense. I have found during my public speaking that most people do not understand intellectual property, royalties, and residual income. After explanation, most people are astounded to know that my income is based on a rate determined by the Copyright Law of 1909 and is never negotiable no matter how many #1 songs on the charts I may have. Unlike an author who after a number of books land on the bestseller list can renegotiate their contract for the next book, songwriters and music publishers cannot renegotiate our royalty rate. In the best case scenario, I am only able to earn 9.1 cents per song on an artist's CD and that is only if I've written and published the song by myself entirely. That's rarely the case. My intellectual property though not concrete is my property nonetheless. When people illegally download a song that I've written, they might as well have walked into my home and stolen a chair. Much is needed in the way of education. I've been to Washington before with NSAI (Nashville Songwriter Assoc. Inc) and am encouraged that we have such support on the Hill. I hope that continues and would be more than willing to make myself available to ensure that.

There is more to say and I hope I get an opportunity to do so at a later date. In the meantime, I need to make dinner. I think I'll try and download a turkey from Kroger.

Most Sincerely,

Kristy Jackson

Fever Pitch Music

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[www.kristyjackson.com](http://www.kristyjackson.com)

[www.littledidsheknow.com](http://www.littledidsheknow.com) - The #1 most requested song on the largest radio stations in NY, NJ, PA and other major markets after 9/11. The song continues to get airplay on every anniversary. Turning down a deal with Sony, Kristy remained independent and raised over \$30,000 for 9/11 charities. Not bad for an indie.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jcLGLbYyeHQ> - Little Did She Know Video