

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Cc: doctorow@craphound.com
Subject: Please balance copyright enforcement!

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I'll be as brief as I can:

* Please, NO damage awards based on decades-old, half-remembered, vastly inflated, and entirely unscientific extrapolation of a rough estimate of copyright losses due to fake tractor parts. That's where they currently come from. Seriously. Look it up.

* Please, NO enforcement that accepts accusation as conviction. In this country we are presumed innocent.

* Please, NO enforcement that restricts or constrains Internet access. The Internet is where we work, and play, and socialize, and seek medical advice and employment, and have political discussions, and provide feedback to elected officials.

* Please, do not sacrifice free speech for corporate profits and Hollywood campaign donations.

* Please, NO mandates for ISPs to snoop on their customers. That is an end-run around the Fourth Amendment.

* Please, protect fair use and punish blanket takedown notices and other baseless legal bullying.

* Please, ensure that groups purporting to collect royalties for artists are actually paying the artists.

* Please, ensure that companies externalizing the cost of enforcement of their copyrights to the government are actually paying their taxes.

* Please, stop referring to unauthorized copying as theft (theft deprives the original owner of something), or piracy (piracy is a very real life-threatening issue that should not be trivialized).

* Please, NO more pressuring other countries to accept our laws on their soil.

* Please, NO more demonizing Canada for specious copyright transgressions.

* Please, accept that DRM is never going to work technically, and only serves to frustrate legal purchasers of content.

* Please, stop bundling music and movies with pharmaceuticals. Using fear about counterfeit drugs is a cheap tactic.

* Please, consult with Cory Doctorow <http://craphound.com/> , the EFF <http://www.eff.org/> , and the CDT <http://www.cdt.org/> .

Personally, I'd like to see us return to a pre-DMCA world where copyright was a civil matter. Sadly, I've scaled back my hopes significantly, and I now just don't want you to destroy freedom to protect a specific business model.

Thank you for your time.

Brian Lalonde
Spokane Valley, WA