From:

To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty

Subject: On Deadline: Christian Science Monitor Newspaper

**Date:** Monday, March 22, 2010 10:48:32 AM

## To whom it may concern,

I am a writer on deadline working on a story for the Christian Science Monitor newspaper ("Money" section) about counterfeit goods. My story is intended to be a consumer protection story examining the rising rate of goods being passed-off as legitimate to unwitting consumers (versus consumers who, for example, know they're buying a knock-off handbag and continue to do so. This story is for those who don't realize they aren't buying the real thing). First, is this something you see happening more and more? Can this be a danger to consumers? How? Can it be a danger to the U.S. economy? How? And how can consumers protect themselves by identifying and avoiding counterfeit goods?

If this is something you can offer comment on, I would like to set up an interview this week.

## Best, Christianna McCausland

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