

From: [REDACTED]
To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Cc: info@copyrightalliance.org
Subject: IP infringement
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 12:34:03 AM

Ms. Espinel and the Obama admin.,

ASMP and the Copyright Alliance have informed me of this welcome invitation from the Obama admin. to share my thoughts on my rights as a creator. I am a professional photographer and nothing is as important these days as keeping the rights to my images. My livelihood and existence are mainly due to the fact that I own the copyright to my images. I have had some infringements in the past and only expect more to happen with the internet and technologies available now. People need to be constantly educated in what is proper and legal. Some people are ignorant to some things, but once educated and told what the proper protocol is then they become aware of it at least. Then it is up to their conscience what happens next. Otherwise, you've got those types that don't care and/or think they own all rights to your image for little or no money. They benefit at my expense.

I cannot emphasize how important it is to me as a professional photographer to keep the ball rolling on copyright infringement. Only I should be able to control what happens to an image as an artist and only I should gain income from my work. Or have the ability to license the image out to others, but be reimbursed for the right to use it. Otherwise, what is the incentive to produce a work of art or take a photograph when someone else can use it for anything they want?

We have a great country and rights given to us by our forefathers who had much insight. I would love to see that tradition continue. I appreciate the chance to voice my opinion and thank your for your time and effort!

Todd Patrick
Glenwood Springs, CO
Professional Photographer