

From: [REDACTED]
To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty; info@copyrightalliance.org
Subject: How intellectual property infringement affects my livelihood
Date: Wednesday, March 24, 2010 4:58:13 PM

Dear Ms. Espinel and the Obama Administration:

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.

As a professional architectural photographer in Chicago intellectual property rights, specifically copyrights, are a core aspect of my business. Everything I photograph is based on a rights managed licensing model. I generate revenue not only from the time and effort I put into making photographs but also on the relative value they bring to my clients.

With the proliferation of digital technology, from easy to use camera phones to the ease of distribution on the Internet, the threat of my own copyright is in jeopardy everyday. While preparing your Strategic Plan please keep in mind that every time one of my images is infringed and I don't have the financial means to start a lawsuit, that we, the little guys, are getting abused. One thing I'd love to see changed is the difference between unpublished and published works. If we as creatives could collect the same damages with published works that we can from non-published, this might help in our ability to chase down infringers.

I implore you and the administration to remain steadfast in support of every opportunity for an artist to maintain their livelihood. This translates to maintaining if not strengthening the rights of artists and creatives. This is one of the things our great nation is build upon, the pursuit of happiness. I am blessed to be able to make a living doing what I enjoy and hope to be able to continue this path. However, with rights being abused and diminished at every turn it has become an uphill battle.

Thank you for asking us to participate in this conversation.

Sincerely,

David Seide

--

David B. Seide

<http://www.definedspace.com>

312.733.8233

ASMP Chicago/Midwest President Emeritus

<http://www.asmpchicagomidwest.org>

Associate AIA

<http://www.aiachicago.org>