

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FN-OMB-Intel](#) [REDACTED]
Subject: IP Enforcement
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 7:56:22 PM

Dear Ms. Espinel,

First, on behalf of myself and many other photographers and creators, thank you for the welcome opportunity to be heard and considered in policy making.

I am a photographer in the Philadelphia area and have to struggle with theft of images on a regular basis. Copyright is important to me because it protects my investment in my future, which are my images that can be used as stock photography or relicensed much like the Disney group licenses their images and characters.

A simple example: several years ago I photographed an item for a media company with rights granted for only 6 months as they had a small budget. They are using the images to this day even though I have contacted them repeatedly explaining the issue and additional rights and costs. Their response was "It's only business, nothing personal." As a media group, they have much deeper pockets and in-house lawyers that I can never match. This translates into roughly \$19,000 lost which could have hired a part time assistant to help my business grow and continue to contribute to the economy.

I ask you to please be considerate of the many photographers and other creators when looking into enforcement policy. We might not have a large voice, but our work is everywhere you look. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Steve Sharp, Photographer
Philadelphia, PA