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**To:** [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](mailto:FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty)  
**Cc:** [info@copyrightalliance.org](mailto:info@copyrightalliance.org)  
**Subject:** PRO-IP Act of 2008 - Ms. Espinel and her White House Team - Joint Strategic Plan re: Intellectual Property Infringement  
**Date:** Thursday, March 18, 2010 11:31:48 AM  
**Importance:** High

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First Off, Obama is an Awesome President. So happy to have someone in the Oval Office who has a great head AND a great heart, dealing with the intricacies of the legislative process.

Regarding protection of intellectual property, there is a proper balance. I can speak as both a photographer and a web designer.

When the internet was first starting, I remember there being a warning something like: "If you post it on the internet you lose your rights and it becomes public domain ownership, can be copied and reproduced without your permission." This was helpful because it helped build content on the net in the beginning days.

As a photographer, I have published my photographs on the internet and realized they could be reproduced without my permission. My safeguard has been to publish photos at low resolution only, and to imprint or watermark my name and the © copyright symbol and year. Low res keeps people from being able to reprint the work as a poster or book image. If there is a way to embed my credit ownership statement inside the image where it can't be removed, that would be good, but yesterday's technology usually gets defeated by tomorrow's software.

Conversely, I am a web designer and appreciate being able to do a Google search and find unrestricted images. Lots of websites have been built using public domain images.

If anybody can figure out a fair balance for this complex issue, it would be president Obama. Best of luck and thanks for asking.

Anonymous By Request