



ANNOUNCEMENT

from the Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20559

NOTICE OF CHANGE IN PROCEDURE

CHANGE IN PROCEDURE REGARDING FILING OF NOTIFICATIONS (17 U.S.C. 508 FILINGS)

The following excerpt is taken from Volume 51, Number 162 of the Federal Register for Thursday, August 21, 1986 (pp.29973)

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Copyright Office

Change in Procedure Regarding Filing of Notifications (17 U.S.C. 508 Filings)

AGENCY: Library of Congress, Copyright Office.

ACTION: Notice of change in procedures.

SUMMARY: This notice informs the public of a change in procedure regarding the filing of notification received under 17 U.S.C. 508. The Register of Copyrights has determined that it is no longer practicable to maintain a separate index to documents received in compliance with section 508. Henceforth the documents will be received and retained until enough have accumulated to fill one reel of microfilm. They will then be microfilmed alphabetically under the plaintiff's name.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF PUBLICATION: August 21, 1986.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Winston Tabb, Chief, Information and Reference Division, Copyright Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20559. Telephone: (202) 287-6800.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice is hereby given that the Copyright Office is revising its procedures concerning the handling of notifications of filing and determinations of actions under section 508 of the Copyright Act, title 17 of the

United States Code. This section of the Act reads as follows:

§ 508. Notification of filing and determination of actions.

(a) Within one month after the filing of any action under this title, the clerks of the courts of the United States shall send written notification to the Register of Copyrights setting forth, as far as is shown by the papers filed in the court, the names and addresses of the parties and the title, author, registration number of each work involved in the action. If any other copyrighted work is later included in the action by amendment, answer, or other pleading, the clerk shall also send a notification concerning it to the Register within one month after the pleading is filed.

(b) Within one month after any final order or judgment is issued in the case, the clerk of the court shall notify the Register of it, sending with the notification a copy of the order or judgment together with the written opinion, if any, of the court.

(c) Upon receiving the notifications specified in this section, the Register shall make them a part of the public records of the Copyright Office.

On June 19, 1980 the Copyright Office published in the Federal Register [45 FR 41548] a change in the procedure regarding section 508 filings. Under the procedure announced at that time the notifications were filed by a serial number in the Certifications and Documents Section of the Information and Reference Division. To provide access to these notifications, an index card under the plaintiff's name was prepared for each document. The preparation of the index cards has

proven to be an unnecessary workload item. There have been fewer than five requests per year for information contained in this file. Consequently, we cannot justify the time and expense required to continue the indexing procedure.

Therefore, we have revised our practices and procedures regarding section 508 filings. Beginning immediately we are discounting the preparation of the index cards. Documents will be received and retained in the Certifications and Documents Section until enough have accumulated to fill one reel of microfilm. They will then be microfilmed alphabetically under the plaintiff's name. Each reel will have affixed to it the inclusive dates of receipt in the Copyright Office of all the documents contained on the reel. The microfilm reels will be maintained by the Certifications and Documents Section, LM-402, Copyright Office, Library of Congress. The hours of public access to the Certifications and Documents Section are from 8:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Monday through Fridays (except legal holidays).

Dated: August 12, 1986.

Ralph Oman,
Register of Copyrights.

Approved by:
Daniel J. Boorstin,
The Librarian of Congress.
[FR Doc. 86-18885 Filed 8-20-86; 8:45 am]
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1 Error; line should read:
"filing of notifications received under 17"

2 Error; line should read:
"immediately we are discontinuing the"