

From: [REDACTED]
To: FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty
Cc: info@copyrightalliance.org
Subject: Copyright
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 11:19:44 AM

Dear Ms. Espinel,
Just dropping a note with example of why copy protection needs to be enhanced, not degraded.

As an emerging photographer, I have had many images used without license or authorization, even though, with help of modern technology, ownership data is embedded in the image and easily recoverable. In fact, I've even been given credit for stolen images!

In some cases, the ownership data is stripped out of the file by an unauthorized distributor, in others just ignored.

Here is the crux for you and I. I am disabled and struggling to become independent. The value of the stolen images would have been enough to give me a boost up. So it is not just the act of the theft, but the repercussion to the person who owns the copy protected material.

For some reason current discussion seems to center around copy violation as a victimless crime with no real harm other than financial loss. As you can see, that is not the case. There is in fact real, touchable, harm done to real people.

Thank you for taking control of such activities.

Douglas Orton
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