

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)
Subject: how infringement affects my career
Date: Tuesday, March 23, 2010 11:16:02 AM

Dear Ms. Espinel

Leaping Lizards Music LLC located at POB 475 NYC 10029 is a music production and distribution studio. As the sole owner of the LLC, I have been involved in the creation of music for the past 40 years. My experience in dealing the the music industry is not positive.

My first contract (1965) with Speed records yielded an album but the record company never paid me royalties. Speed's music catalog has been purchased and sold over the years. Fania is the current owner of their catalog. My CD, Chuito and The Latin Uniques:From the Streets is part of that catalog. They have refused to pay mechanical licensing fees and royalties. The Cd is currently selling in Latin America and Europe. The Cd can be purchased on ITunes and similar websites. I have never received compensation. I hold the US copyright for the recorded material. My attempts in reaching out to both companies have not been fruitful.

Two of my songs; Bobo Tu Te Quedaras and Flight were recorded (with my consent) by the New Swing Sextet. their CD Back on The Streets was nominated for the 2008 Grammy Award and was initially distributed by Emusica LLC based in Florida. The CD is currently distributed by Fania. I communicated with the companies infoming them of their infringement, they have refused to pay royalties and licensing fees.

I attempted to hire 2 attorneys in NY to commence a suit in Federal Court based on the federal question regarding copyright infringement. ONce they were given the relevant copyright forms and documentation regarding my owership of the music, they never returned my calls.

My experience shows how little protection we have. Records companies steal my music, refuse to pay royalties and mechanical license fees, they violate current copyright law and attorneys do nothing.

I believe we need the follwoing improvements;

1. updated laws protecting intellectual property
2. improved inforcement imposing fines on companies and individuals who violate the law
3. Law that will allow artists/composers to collect compensation
- 4 fund to assists artist/composers with legal representation
5. enforcement of current intellectual property laws to stop piracy and illegal distribution of intellectual property.

respectfully
Jesus Santiago J.D.
Leaping Lizards Music LLC