

Commenter's name: John Ringland

---

Class of works:

All photographic, video, and audio digital content that is, or purports to be, record of fact. (E.g. news footage.)

---

Summary:

Video/Audio Enhancement

The ability to apply enhancement techniques to photos/video/audio for forensic or analytical purposes is an essential public right, requires direct access to the cleanest form of the data, and is compromised by any restriction of its application to degraded forms of data such as analog conversions.

---

Argument:

The ability to apply enhancement techniques to photos/video/audio for forensic or analytical purposes is an essential public right, requires direct access to the cleanest form of the data, and is compromised by any restriction of its application to degraded forms of data such as analog conversions.

Enhancement might be necessary to detect fakery in photos, audio, or video, to identify faint or otherwise indistinct features, or to accurately determine trajectories of moving objects.

Uncontrolled analog conversions are inadequate substitutes, since the purpose of enhancement is to extract information that is barely above the noise level: any degradation of the data by passing it through an analog stage will cause such information to be lost.

It is essential that there NOT be a requirement

to seek special permission from the content provider  
to conduct analyses requiring enhancement.