

U.S. COPYRIGHT OFFICE LEADERSHIP



Sarang V. Damle

General Counsel and Associate Register of Copyrights

Sarang (Sy) Damle is general counsel and Associate Register of Copyrights for the United States Copyright Office. He was appointed to the position effective July 31, 2016.

In his position as general counsel, Damle provides legal guidance to the various divisions and programs of the Office, including the national registration and recordation systems, and he is frequently called upon by congressional offices, the U.S. Department of Justice, and other federal agencies for advice and assistance. He also has primary responsibility for the formation and promulgation of regulations and the adoption of legal positions governing policy matters and practices of the Copyright Office.

Damle joined the Office in 2014 after several years of government service. From 2013 to 2014, he was senior counsel in the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Before that, he was an appellate litigator in the Department of Justice's Civil Division, where he served as lead counsel in over 40 appeals, with a focus on intellectual property, separation of powers, and administrative law matters. Damle began his legal career as a law clerk to the Hon. Sandra L. Lynch of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit.

Damle received his JD from the University of Virginia, where he graduated first in his class. He also holds engineering and business degrees from the University of Pennsylvania.

ABOUT THE U.S. COPYRIGHT OFFICE

Congress established the Copyright Office as a separate department within the Library of Congress in 1897 and created the position of Register of Copyrights to lead it. The United States Copyright Office administers the nation's copyright laws as set forth in the Copyright Act and provides impartial assistance to Congress, the courts, and executive branch agencies on questions of national and international copyright law and policy.