

U.S. COPYRIGHT OFFICE LEADERSHIP



William J. Roberts, Jr.

Associate Register of Copyrights and Director of Public Information and Education

William J. Roberts Jr. is Associate Register of Copyrights and director of public information and education for the United States Copyright Office. He was appointed to the position effective April 16, 2013.

In his position, Roberts heads the Office of Public Information and Education, which informs and carries out the work of the Copyright Office and the Register of Copyrights by providing authoritative information about the copyright law to the public and education through various public outreach programs. The Office of Public Information and Education publishes the copyright law and other provisions of Title 17 of the United States Code; maintains a robust and accurate public website; and creates and distributes a variety of circulars, information sheets, and newsletters. In addition, the Office of Public Information and Education responds to public inquiries regarding provisions of the law, explains registration policies and practices and other copyright-related topics, and plans and executes a variety of educational activities and outreach.

Roberts joined the Copyright Office in 1987 as an attorney in the Office of General counsel after having previously engaged in private practice. He was a judge on the U.S. Copyright Royalty Board from 2006 to 2013 and was previously an adjunct professor at the Catholic University Columbus School of Law and the George Mason University School of Law.

Roberts has an AB from the College of the Holy Cross and a JD from the University of Virginia School of Law.

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.