On March 31, 2020, the Register determined that the National Emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as expressed in a declaration by the President on March 13, 2020, had caused a disruption to the copyright system. Accordingly, pursuant to section 710 of the Copyright Act, the Register adjusted certain timing requirements relating to, among other things, the three-month grace period for registration provided by section 412 for the award of certain statutory remedies for the infringement of published works. This adjustment was extended several times, until the end of the day on December 31, 2021.

The adjustment required the filing of a declaration with the Office along with the application, prior to the expiration of the timing adjustment, requesting that the Office grant an adjustment of the three-month window. It also required those taking advantage of the adjustment to submit deposit copies to the Office within 30 days of the expiration of the adjustment, or January 30, 2022.

The Register has determined that, because of the length of the disruption, the 30-day period for submitting deposit copies after the expiration of the timing adjustment should be extended to allow copyright owners to submit their deposits in an orderly fashion. Therefore, the Register hereby declares that deposit copies from those applicants who filed electronic applications and declarations on or before December 31, 2021, pursuant to the timing adjustments, must be received by the Copyright Office on or before March 31, 2022, in order for their requests for timing adjustments to be considered.

This adjustment is intended to ameliorate the effects of the disruption that was determined to exist when the adjustments were made and extended. This decision does not otherwise alter or affect the timing adjustments that expired on December 31, 2021.

Shira Perlmutter
Register of Copyrights and Director, U.S. Copyright Office