

Dear Copyright Office,

As a professional photographer (member of APA and ASMP), I am concerned about the proposed increase of fees.

As technology to identify misuse of unlicensed images continues to improve, the registration of images with the Copyright Office is continuing to increase in its importance.

Consumer cameras are rapidly improving in quality and many consumers are producing commercial-quality content without realizing it. This abundance of images creates a strong temptation to misuse them without properly licensing the works from the copyright owner.

A \$35 fee for registering unpublished collections is within "impulse buy" range for many non-professional photographers.

A fee of \$85 likely exceeds the "hobby" budget, which will lead to decreased protection of such works in the event they are improperly used. The hobbyist will have reduced legal remedies to seek relief for unlicensed use.

Two suggestions:

1. Keep the current fees at current levels
2. Explore how it would be possible to implement FREE registration, on perhaps a time-limited basis, for photographers in a restricted class.

Sincerely,

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