



October, 2012

US Copyright Office
Washington, DC

Subject: Comment regarding Remedies for Small Copyright Claims

The non-profit Independent Book Publishers Association (IBPA) supports and represents 3000 small and medium-size publishers across the United States. I am submitting these comments on behalf of IBPA and its members.

As with any small business, budget looms large in all small publishers' considerations but particularly in those that involve legal proceedings. I applaud the US Copyright's Office examination of the issue of remedies for small copyright claims, as anecdotal evidence from IBPA members who have been involved in copyright disputes suggests that finances are indeed a barrier to pursuing any sort of copyright claim through the current legal system.

Lack of funds should not be a deterrent in seeking remedies for copyright violations that have the potential of significantly affecting a publisher's livelihood. The smaller that publisher is, the more significant that effect can be and, under the current system, the more likely the publisher will be unable to afford to bring violators to justice.

A solution to enable smaller publishers and authors to seek relief from copyright violations without financial hardship would be most welcome, and I would be happy to participate in further discussion of this issue.

Sincerely,

Florrie Binford Kichler, President, IBPA

www.ibpa-online.org