The RFA is for a single capability that a Component is the OPR or for which has Executive Agency. The Executive Secretary will send the RFA to that Component for action, and will provide an information copy to the ASD(HD&ASA) and the CJCS.

(D) Vetting of RFAs will be in accordance with DoD’s Global Force Management process and consistent with criteria published in 32 CFR part 185.

(E) Unless directed otherwise, the Executive Secretary will communicate the Department’s decision on support to a special event to the requesting authorities.

(4) Execution. Execution of DoD support to special events is a shared responsibility. The scope and magnitude of the support being provided will determine the OPR and level of execution.

(i) When joint military forces or centralized command and control of DoD support to a special event are anticipated or required, a Combatant Commander shall be identified as the Supported Commander in a properly approved order issued by the CJCS. The designated Combatant Commander shall be the focal point for execution of DoD support to that special event with other DoD Components in support. Reporting requirements shall be in accordance with the properly approved order issued by the CJCS and standing business practices.

(ii) When there are no military forces required and no need for centralized command and control, DoD support to special events shall be executed by the CJCS or the head of a DoD Component, as designated in a properly approved order or message issued by the CJCS. Oversight of DoD support will be provided by the ASD(HD&ASA).

(5) Recovery. (i) Durable, non-unit equipment, procured by the Department of Defense to support a special event, shall be retained by the CJCS for use during future events in accordance with §183.5(h)(7) of this part.

(ii) An After-Action Report shall be produced by the Combatant Command or OPR and sent to ASD(HD&ASA) and the CJCS within 60 days of completion of the event.

Dated: November 15, 2010.

Patricia L. Toppings,
OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.
Copyright Office at 202–707–8125 for special instructions.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Amanda Wilson Denton, Counsel for Policy and International Affairs, by telephone at 202–707–8125 or by electronic mail at amwi@loc.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Copyright Act gives authors (and some heirs, beneficiaries and representatives who are specified by statute) the right to terminate certain grants of transfers or licenses within the time frames set forth in the statute and subject to the execution of certain conditions precedent. Termination rights (also referred to as "recapture rights") are equitable accommodations under the law. They allow authors or their heirs a second opportunity to share in the economic success of their works. Codified in sections 304(c), 304(d) and 203 of Title 17, respectively, they encompass grants made before as well as after January 1, 1978 (the effective date of the 1976 Copyright Act).

However, the provisions do not apply to copyrights in works made for hire or grants made by will. Sections 304(c) and 304(d) establish termination rights for works subject to grants of transfers or licenses of copyright (or of any right under a copyright) made before January 1, 1978, the effective date of the 1976 Copyright Act. Section 203, which is the subject of this proposed rulemaking, establishes termination rights for works subject to grants of transfers or licenses executed by the author on or after the effective date of the 1976 Copyright Act.

This proposed rulemaking is intended to address a narrow fact pattern that was the subject of a notice of inquiry after some authors and their representatives brought concerns to the attention of the Copyright Office and some Congressional Offices. In a Federal Register Notice dated March 29, 2010 (75 FR 15390), the Office sought comments as to whether or how the termination provisions apply in circumstances where a grant was agreed to prior to January 1, 1978, but the work in question was created on or after January 1, 1978. In response to the Notice of Inquiry, the Copyright Office received sixteen initial comments and nine reply comments. These comments are available online on the Copyright Office Web site, at http://www.copyright.gov/docs/termination/.

Several of those commenters took the position that the termination right provided in section 203 of the Copyright Act should be available under the circumstances in question. They based this position on a number of legal and policy arguments, prominent among which was the argument that a grant is not fully executed under the law until the relevant work has been created. Therefore, pre-1978 grants for works not created until January 1, 1978, or later should be subject to termination under section 203. See, e.g., Comment of Jane C. Ginsburg, Columbia University Law School at page 1; and Comment of Kenneth D. Freundlich, Freundlich Law, and Neil W. Netanel, UCLA Law School, at pages 5–6. This argument is closely related to the idea that the rights created by title 17 can vest only in actual works of authorship, making the creation date of the work central to the point in time at which any right under the Copyright Act, including the termination right, may be transferred. See, e.g., Comment of Randall D. Wixen, Wixen Music Publishing, Inc., at 1.

Several commenters also cited the legislative history of the 1976 Copyright Act and the express exceptions that are found within the termination provisions as evidence that Congress did not intend to preclude termination of pre-1978 grants of works created on or after January 1, 1978. See, e.g., Comment of Bill Gable, Law Offices of Bill Gable, at page 2; and Comment of Niels Schaumann, William Mitchell College of Law, at page 4.

At least one comment, however, expressed skepticism that section 203 should apply to any fact patterns in which grants were made prior to January 1, 1978. It observed that the Congress may "have intended the term executed to mean signed" in other sections of the Copyright Act and that prior to the enactment of the Copyright Act of 1976, publications by the Copyright Office had expressed views consistent with the conclusion that a grant should be considered to be executed on the date the grant was signed. See Reply Comment of the Recording Industry Association of America, Inc. ("RIAA"), at pages 2–3.

Based on the comments received, the Copyright Office believes that there are legitimate grounds to assert that, in the case of a grant signed (or, in the case of an oral license, agreed to) before January 1, 1978 regarding rights in a work not created until January 1, 1978 or later, such a grant cannot be "executed" until the work exists. Therefore, the Office will record a notice of termination in such a case so long as the notice states that the grant was executed on a specified date that is on or after January 1, 1978. If properly served and submitting a notice of termination based on the rationale described above would be justified in including in the notice, as the date of execution of the grant, the date that the work was created. For purposes of clearly identifying the grant being terminated, it may be useful also to state the date the grant was signed.

The Office’s recordation of such notices of termination is without prejudice as to how a court might ultimately rule on whether the document is a notice of termination within the scope of section 203. See 37 CFR 201.10(f)(5).

Through the proposed regulatory amendments, the Office seeks to provide immediate practical guidance in light of the fact that the first deadlines for serving notices of section 203 terminations for grants executed in 1978 (if the terminating party wishes to terminate on the earliest possible date) will begin to expire next year. The amendments clarify that, consistent with existing recordation practices, the Office reserves the right to refuse a document for recordation as a section 203 notice of termination if the date of execution of the grant, as reflected in the document submitted as a notice of termination, falls before January 1, 1978. This practice is consistent with the law (17 U.S.C. 203(a)) and the existing regulations (37 CFR 201.10(b)(2)). The proposed amendments to the regulations underscore the consequences of failure on the part of an author or his heirs to comply with this aspect of section 203(a) of the Copyright Act, which can prevent recordation of the document as a notice of termination. Failure to record a notice of termination in a timely manner is a fatal error that will prevent termination from taking effect.

The Office also takes the opportunity in this proposed rulemaking to clarify certain circumstances under which the Office will refuse to index as notices of termination documents submitted under section 203, for reason of certain procedural failures drawn from the clear language of the Copyright Act. These circumstances include a date of execution of the grant that falls before January 1, 1978 (as discussed above), an effective date of termination that does not fall within the allowed statutory period (17 U.S.C. 203(a)(3)), improperly timed service of the notice of termination (17 U.S.C. 203(a)(4)(A)), or submission of documents for recordation as notice of termination on or after the effective date of termination (17 U.S.C. 203(a)(4)(A)). These circumstances are not intended to be an exhaustive list of procedural failures that may result in failure to record notices of termination.
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

47 CFR Part 64
[CG Docket Nos. 10–207 and 09–158; FCC 10–180]

Empowering Consumers to Avoid Bill Shock; Consumer Information and Disclosure

AGENCY: Federal Communications Commission.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: In this document, the Commission proposes rules that would require mobile service providers to provide usage alerts and information that will assist consumers in avoiding unexpected charges on their bills. The Commission believes its proposals will allow consumers to understand the costs associated with use of their mobile service plans and take advantage of safeguards against bill shock by providing them with timely information to better manage those costs and thereby avoid incurring unexpected charges on their bills.

DATES: Comments are due on or before December 27, 2010. Reply comments are due on or before January 25, 2011.

Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the Commission’s Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) http://jfcfapps.fcc.gov/ecfs2/ or the Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the Web site for submitting comments and transmit one electronic copy of the filing to each docket number referenced in the caption. In this case, the docket number is CG Docket Nos. 10–207 and 09–158.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Richard D. Smith, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau, Policy Division, at (717) 338–2797 (voice), or e-mail Richard.Smith@fcc.gov.

For additional information concerning the PRA information collection requirements contained in this document, contact Cathy Williams, Federal Communications Commission, at (202) 418–2918, or e-mail Cathy.Williams@fcc.gov.