

Moni ka-Handl ey-Deborah-20050227233002

To: Julie L. Sigall
Associate Register for Policy & International Affairs

Date: 02/27/2005

From: Deborah Moni ka Handl ey

Comment:

As a professional photographer I don't want to see the copyright laws changed at all. It is bad enough these days that with today's technology it is getting easier and easier for customers to reproduce (copy) a photograph we have created to avoid the cost of ordering a print from the photographer. How is a professional photographer to stay in business?

And now you are considering a change in the copyright laws to make it even easier? Whats to keep a person from saying, "Well I tried to find the photographer, but I couldn't" in every case just so that they can avoid paying the photographer to reprint the photo? No, No, No.

I think this is a terrible idea. Copyright laws are there for a reason. It is to protect the creative work of the artist who created it. Please don't change these laws at all. I've been a professional photographer for over 20 years and I really don't want to have to find a new career at this age, but if things keep going in this direction I may not have a choice.