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

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Comment:

Some time back, a fellow named, Olu, from Ghana, West Africa, requested help to further his music career. He had songs he wanted put to music. Each song would need to be "vetted" for originality, then set to music, and, of course, the music would need to be "vetted" for originality. Olu had no money. In fact, Olu often had to choose between paying for a meal or paying to read his email from a cybercafe, somewhere in Africa.

In our work, which is to assist communities to build and operate community-based recording studios, we find this scenario played out within inner-city neighborhoods. The problem is there, and it is out of reach for almost everyone. The cost of identifying and arranging to pay unknown copyright holders is overwhelming.

Technology is available to solve this problem, to make the search for "vetting" of potentially copyrighted conflicts simple. The copyright office has an obligation to the Olu(s) of the world, and we look forward to seeing how that obligation is handled.

Respectfully,  
Tom Poe  
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[www.ibiblio.org/studioforrecording/](http://www.ibiblio.org/studioforrecording/)