

Vi tsky-Sal l y-20050320080006

To: Jul e L. Sigal l  
Associate Register for Policy & International Affairs

Date: 03/20/2005

From: Sal l y Vi tsky

Comment:

I am a freelance illustrator and a holder of numerous copyrights. I've put an enormous amount of effort into crating my work and, yes, some of that effort has produced huge headaches at times. I would be appalled to find one of my images in use just because someone didn't want to put in the effort it might take to track down my copyright. This is my livelihood and these are the pieces that of the puzzle that make up my income and preserve my identity as an illustrator. When my work is used without regard to my copyright, I lose, my heirs lose and everyone else "wins".

My wish is that the copyright office put their time and creative energies into devising a better way to search orphaned works. Perhaps a website with such works where creators and heirs can search the works and lay their claim to what is rightly theirs. Please rethink this issue. Artist's rights are so fragile as is and our culture has so little understanding and respect for us "right brain" folks. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my opinion.