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

Date: 03/14/2005

From: Evan Gray

Comment:

While I am reluctant to say that a copyright holder, to maintain their copyright, must keep a verified contact address on file with any government agency, I fear it may be somewhat neccessary if copyrights are made to last as long as they do.

However, if that isn't acceptable, I believe we need a standard for "diligent effort" and perhaps a system of "contract in trust" where a person or company wishing to making use of a copyrighted work whose owner can't be found or located, can set aside funds for the reasonable compensation of the owner, should they ever be found, and if not, the funds can be returned as a default.

Maybe this won't work, maybe it's a dumb idea, but I thinkit's worth thinking about.