Walter Charles Becktel Primary (Senior) Oracle/Lyricist and Artist P.O. Box 861954 T.A. Los Angeles, Calif. 90086-1954 (213)627-4203 #628 a_987654321@hotmail.com Saturday, September 02, 2000 03:49:16 PM

REPLY COMMENT

Dear Sirs,

Please allow this "reply comment" including the following **errata** with **addendum** to the respondent's original **COMMENT** of 8/2/000 listed below in the concern of the request for comments dated 6/5/000 on Title 1 of the Digital Millenium Copyright Act - comments for the **sections 109, 117, and General** comments either directly related; or as in the case of the respondent, indirectly related, but pertaining to **Title 17 USC Copyrights** per the "**specific questions**" section, **question #2** - "General", (a) "Are there any additional issues...?".

Original text will be in *italic*, and the errata and addendum texts will be in regular, <u>underlined</u> type. The existance of **bold** or elsewise has nothing to do with the errata or/and addendum information. Deleted text will be set off by asterisks at the begining and the end of the deletion (* *), any new text to be entered between the asterisks and likewise <u>underlined</u>

ERRATA COPY, WITH ADDENDUM

Walter Charles Becktel <u>Primary (Senior) Oracle/* */Lyricist and Artist</u> P.O. Box 861954 T.A. Los Angeles, Calif. 90086-1954 (213)627-4203 #628 a_987654321@hotmail.com <u>8/2/000</u>

COMMENT

Dears Sirs,

Per the DMCA of 1998, and your request for comments dated 6/5/000 on title 1 of the Act, I would like to add the following:

It firstly seems dubious to me, that no definition(s) have ever been added for "author" in Title 17 USC Section 101. Possibly this doesn't SEEM to have anything to DO with any such "Digital Millenium" bologna, but in LIGHT of the fact that recent awareness has revealed that several of the so-called "authors" of these same "works" that you all keep ARGUING about, are in fact recipients of stolen lyrics either through eavsdropping, "careful observance", or unwelcomed transcription/tape recordings; it would seem to me MORE than appropriate at THIS time to at least come up with some sort of a tentative DEFINITION of the word - because as it stands now, the general vagueness of the Statute seems to be causing MOST people to believe that, "if I just hurry on UP over there to the Copyright Office, and get that copyright on these WORDS that I wrote down, then I don't HAVE to give any credit, ON the copyright form or elsewise, to the person(s) I stole the recital(s) FROM...he he he". Scenerio #4: Lets say your Stenographer kipes off with *<u>one of your</u>* dictations, runs <u>on</u> over to the copyright office, copyrights the dictation, and then says SHE is the sole author of the dictation - get the point? *Any* person who "overhears" another person's recitals, especially if he is another artist, and goes and copyrights those same transcriptions WITHOUT mentioning the name(s) of the persons whom he or she "borrowed" them from, is just as much a thief as that STENOGRAPHER is. And apparently, we've been having quite a BIT of this sort of theft going on lately; and I think that it is all DUE to the fact that there isn't any solid definition of the word "author" per se.

So please DO allow me the following proposal, and possibly <u>also</u> for a couple of OTHER words; 'cause, how can <u>any of</u> you go ON with this "copyright" business, when you guys haven't even "gotten off the ground" about WHO the AUTHOR is?

The following is per the "Specific Questions" section of the "Request for public comment", question #2 - "General"; (a) "Are there any additional issues...?"

Proposed Title 17 USC Section 101 additions:

"AUTHOR", is he who either dictates for a recorder, or puts the words down himself into the "tangible medium". The RECORDER (secretary, scribe, stenographer, etc.) is NOT the author except where that person's individual contribution can be ascertained, AND with the permission of the author - and then at best is only a CO-AUTHOR as in the case of a professor and his understudy. One does NOT need to hold any title or office to qualify as being "author" per se; "author" is not a legal designation, but only a condition of fact. It is not a condition of poverty or wealth, <u>of</u> education or retardation, mental, physical, sexual, or spiritual fitness; and any such person alienating one such author for any of the aforesaid reasons, or any OTHER reason, is liable to the prosecution of which under Federal. <u>State, or Local</u> Laws either through civil litigation or/AND criminal prosecution.

"TALKER", is a modern day lay term for an oracle, prophet, seer, sooth sayer, or the like. For the purposes of this section, said "talker" is also an author. When one takes dictation from one such "talker", he acts as nothing more than a scribe, secretary, or stenographer, unless additional co-authorship can be ascertained. Although he CAN be, for the purposes of this section (and for the most part), a "talker" is NOT a Tarot Card reader or/and any such person who normally would be associated as to delving into the COMMERCIALLY SUPERNATURAL; although those who are "into" such things tend to freely violate a "talker's" privacy. Generally, "talkers" are REAL PEOPLE; but although the violation of their civil rights is CUSTOMARY, it is not legal under federal law to proceed against ANY person in or WITH a custom which violates his civil rights. Doesn't matter for how many **CENTURIES** they've been doing IT! In the United States it's, "don't mess with MY prophet, and I won't mess with YOUR seer". The penalties for such a violation are prosecuted in both the civil and criminal courts.

"INVESTIGATION". The investigation for any serious violation of said Title 17 USC Copyright Law where the implications are extreme, - DESPITE the fact that maybe only one or two persons are victims is to take place AUTOMATICALLY by the United States Attorney General's office. It would be sufficient for said investigation to initiate through the United States Copyright Office or/and any appropriate policing agency including, but NOT limited to State, Local, and/or Federal. The RIAA, ASCAP, SESAC and other similar groups would ALSO be required to initiate an investigation of such, and demurrer and/or devulge any and all informations to the United States Attorney General concerning any such authorship, plagerism, or/and piracy violations. The era of robbing the poor man of his lyrics must STOP be they poor Whites, Hispanics, Blacks, Orientals, American Indians or from any OTHER group; and initiating the ensuing lawsuit should NOT be up to individuals who cannot afford a qualified lawyer.

"PLAGERISM", among other commonly known definitions, is the condition of THEFT whereby by a secretary, scribe, recorder, stenographer, or other similar transcriber ascribes to HIMSELF as sole authorship those words, ideas, compositions, or other works which dictating author has entrusted, through the law (common or elsewise), into the hands of the recorder for his safe keeping. Said plagerism of said dictation does NOT constitute any such "fair usage" for the plagerist and/or his assigns, and neither is said dictation within the "public domain". Prosecution for said plagerism would be either within the jurisdiction of the civil or/and criminal court.

If the foregoing "definitions" are elsewhere described, I appologize; but DO believe that it would be wise to include them within Section 101, due to the apparent confusion that has ensued.

Please reply to the foregoing and allow me to know what you think - I'm sure YOU wouldn't want YOUR words "eaten up" by one of these "Little Gremlins".

Sincerely, Walter C. Becktel a_987654321@hotmail.com

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