

Johnson-Cam-20050227100004

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

Date: 02/27/2005

From: Cam Johnson

Comment:

I have been unable to locate the photographer who took MY school pictures 50 years ago. There is no way for me to locate photographers who took pictures of my mother and grandparents. I, in fact, have no idea where those pictures were even taken so long ago.

I have had difficulty having pictures that my grandfather took printed: he took them, he developed and printed them when I was a child. They are better than many 'professional' pictures. Fortunately I have some of the negatives, which are difficult to have printed these days. When I scan them, I must also produce the negatives to prove they are pictures taken at home.

I have no problem purchasing the negatives/rights to any of my family's photographs: however, how can I do it? There are no names on them, not contact info. Photographers have a right to be compensated for their work, but they also MUST provide all the information we need to contact them: their name, valid address with correct contact information. They must keep this information available forever for all our future generations. Until this is accomplished, I, we, should be able to have the photographs printed whenever we choose.