

Slavens-Larry-20050305190002

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

Date: 03/05/2005

From: Larry Slavens

Comment:

I run a web site for the exchange of genealogical and other information for the different variations of my surname. Several times I have found printed or recorded material from the 1930's-50's which I'd like to share but the status of the copyright can't be determined and the publisher is long out of business. For example, I have two 78 rpm gospel recordings from the 1940's that I'd like to convert to sound files and make available on the web site. However, the record label has been out of business for 50 years so obtaining permission to copy and stream the recordings may be impossible to obtain. Instead of new generations of family members hearing these songs, they may instead be lost forever.