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

Date: 03/25/2005

From: Maura King

Comment:

I work as a film and video distributor for independent works, often made completely without funding. I have heard time and time again from our filmmakers that they attempt to clear rights for music they would like to use in their work, but either cannot locate the correct person, never hear a response from an organization they think may be the rights holder and often even find themselves so overwhelmed by the ambiguity around rights clearances that they don't even know where to start.

In comparison, I have been contacted by organizations like the Canadian Retransmission Collective and Screenrights in Australia regarding the possibility that, due to television programs being rebroadcast, they have received copyright payments on our behalf and wish to confirm that we are indeed the holders.

I commend your efforts to clarify a very confusing area for media makers, and hope that models such as those mentioned above may be of use in your efforts.

Kind Regards,
Maura King