

John Mireles
John Mireles Photography
5509 El Cajon Blvd
San Diego, CA 92115

To: Copyright Office
Re: Copyright Registration Rate Increase

Dear Sirs:

This price increase is completely outrageous! I'm a professional photographer who makes his living from the licensing of my work. Nowadays, copyright infringement is pervasive - everywhere I look, people are stealing images and posting them all over the internet.

Unfortunately, the current process for registering is almost unworkable in this internet era. Images are published to the web almost at the moment that they are shot. Images are posted to Instagram, Facebook, to websites, blogs etc so quickly that there is no time to register the images as unpublished. Where in the old days, only a relative handful of images would be published, now photographers, including myself, are publishing dozens of images to the web as frequently as three or four times a week.

The current rate for registering published images already makes individual registration of each and every published image beyond cost prohibitive. I'd spend a small fortune doing individual registration. Instead, I'm forced to do group registration of published images using the paper form every three months. The Copyright office does not allow online registration for groups of published images so going the paper route is my and other working photographer's only option.

Raising the fee to \$100 almost ensures that fewer and fewer photographers will be able to register their work. As dedicated as I am to registering my work, I'm not sure that I'll be able to afford to do so with this price increase. Already the process is far too complicated for the vast majority of photographers to bother. The process needs to be made easier and more accessible - raising the price benefits no one other than people and companies doing the infringing.

If the Copyright office does raise the rate for paper registration to \$100 it is imperative that it allows group registration of images to take place online for a lower rate. What's the point of having a copyright law if artists like myself can't afford it?

John Mireles