

Quicklinks

Join the NWU **Freelancers Copyright Guide Publishing Options** Teleseminar Writer Alerts **Grievance Assistance Freelance Writers Guide** Hire A Union Writer -Information Job Hotline **Local Chapter Contacts Book Authors Journalists BizTech Writers** Hire A Union Writer -Register

Are Your Articles Being Stolen? PE-mail



» Activities/Campaigns » Copyright Defense » Copyright News and Issues >> Are Your Articles Being Stolen?

Copyright Violations by FindArticles.com?

March 2, 2005. If you've freelanced for any of more than 2,800 publications, then it's very possible that FindArticles.com has put your work online without your permission. If FindArticles.com is abusing your copyrights, the National Writers Union wants you to receive just compensation.

The NWU has long supported the position that writers should retain their copyrights and creative control. Retention of copyright is essential, as many freelancers make a significant income through the resale of their work.

In the landmark New York Times v. Tasini case, the Supreme Court established that when independent writers sell content to publishers this only covers first print rights. All other uses, including electronic sales and sales to third parties (such as FindArticles.com), must be negotiated separately.

The NWU stands firmly behind this precedent and wants freelance writers to receive additional compensation for additional use of their work.

What is FindArticles.Com?

FindArticles.com is an Internet database run by LookSmart containing more than five million articles collected from 2,800-plus publications. The growing list of publications contributing articles to the FindArticles.com database can be found at:

http://findarticles.com/p/articles/an 1

What's the problem with FindArticles.com?

Several NWU members have informed us that their work is appearing on FindArticles.com without their consent. They have not received any additional compensation for this infringing use. The NWU wants to correct this problem, but in order to determine the most effective strategy we need to know how many NWU members are affected by FindArticles.com's infringement.

This is where we need your help.

We are asking that you take a few minutes to determine if FindArticles.com is violating your copyrights. (If you are not sure if you retained your electronic rights, please note that in the email you send us and we will try to help you determine if you did indeed retain your rights.)

For instructions on how to determine if your rights have been infringed, go to the following page on the NWU website: Click here

If your rights have been infringed, please report this, as directed, to the NWU.

What will the NWU do with this information?

At this point and time, we are just collecting information. Based on this information, we will determine the best way to attack the problem. We will



1 of 2 1/24/2008 2:42 PM not take any action on your behalf without informing you and receiving your permission.

Please do not contact FindArticles.com at this juncture. If FindArticles.com is infringing your work, we will let you know what course of action the NWU plans to take as soon as possible.

Please take a few minutes and let us know if FindArticles.com is violating your copyrights. The entire process doesn't take much time and your effort will help the NWU effectively deal with the FindArticles.com problem.

Remember, we can only fight copyright infringement when we know where it is actually happening.

If you have any questions regarding this effort, please contact Journalism Co-Chair Paul MacArthur at nwujwriter@yahoo.com.

In solidarity,

Paul J. MacArthur Journalism Division Co-Chair

Gerard Colby President

Susan E. Davis 2nd Vice President, External Organizing Home | About the NWU | Membership Benefits | Activities/Campaigns | Writing Genres | Contact Us

Site Design by ${\bf RadicalFusion}\,$ - National Writers Union @ 2005 - 2006

2 of 2 1/24/2008 2:42 PM