

25 September 2015

To Whom it May Concern

Intellectual Property Arrangements Submission

It has concerned me since commencing my business 13 years ago, about the limited enforcement of the copyright act in relation to original graphic design and website files.

As a business, this has severely impacted our economic viability and growth as we are unable to earn future income from the original files.

The ongoing issues encountered are:

- Some non-profit and business clients believe that if they have paid for a service that they own the files.
- Some non-profit and business clients do not understand why they don't own the files. We have lost clients through enforcing the law or asking for a fee to provide the files.
- Most freelancers do not enforce the law and freely handover original files.
- Government clients have a clause in their contracts which states that they own all rights to the files.

To ensure the prosperity of graphic design and website development businesses, it is recommended that a public education program be undertaken to explain:

- The copyright law and its impact on original graphic design and website files.
- The penalties for not complying with this law.
- The ability to negotiate a fee to own the files; this fee should be in addition to the fee to undertake the work.

Kind regards

Janet Craig