

Washington State Library Correspondence and feedback

Correspondence to and from Jason Dale and;

Kathryn Devine (Reference librarian representing the **Washington State Library**)

Paulo Lopes (Patent Attorney / IP specialist representing **MyPatent**)

AskALibrarian@secstate.wa.gov

<AskALibrarian@secstate.wa.gov> Mon, Mar 9, 2009 at 10:17 PM To:
jason.eddison.dale@gmail.com

Here is the question that you asked:

Hi there, I am investigating some claims made by an author by the name of Douglas Forbes, who has made the following comment on his website: (Questions follow) *"Please note that the intellectual property with all papers and formula mentioned above, is registered in the USA for world protection in the Washington State Library"* end quote. The above quotation appears on the following website:

http://www.douglasforbes.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=13&Itemid=27

1) I cannot find any author on the system by the name of Douglas Forbes. Please confirm if this Author exists? do such persons get assigned a registration code?

2) What are the requirements for submitting or registering works and/or books etc. on the Washington State Library? What are the selection criteria?

Thank you and kind regards,

Jason Dale

Here is the answer to your question:

Jason,

Thank you for contacting the Washington State Library in Olympia, Washington.

I believe the quote you found is not really referring to our library. We are the library that serves the State of Washington (not to be confused with Washington, D.C.). We do not register anything for "world protection."

I believe the author is confused and probably means he has copyrighted his information with the U.S. Copyright Office, which is a branch of the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. (which he is apparently calling the Washington State Library).

See the Copyright Office's website for more information about registering intellectual property and other copyright questions: <http://www.copyright.gov/>. You may also want to contact them with any specific questions about the author Douglas Forbes.

Thanks again for contacting the Washington State Library. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Devine
Reference Librarian
Washington State Library

Further feedback from Paulo Lopes (My Patent)

The quotations as appearing on Forbes's website are invalid on grounds that;

1. IP is generally always registered at the national IP office of any country. There has been no indication at present that IP ever has, or ever can be registered at a library
2. There is no such thing as "world protection" in terms of patents, design and trademarks. These rights are territorial and require that an application be filed in each country in which protection is required
3. It must be noted that copyright, to a certain extent, is recognized across borders under the Berne Convention. Copyright is generally an automatic right which comes into being on the date on which the work is reduced to material form. Copyright may be registered at some national IP Offices not for obtaining a right, but rather for the purposes of more easily proving when the copyright came into being
4. Presently there is no indication or knowledge of any link existing between the Washington State Library and the registration of IP

END OF REPORT