

# Memorandum

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## General Counsel

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TO: University Housing Students  
FROM: Judith Penrod Siminoe  
DATE: July 23, 2002  
SUBJECT: Copyrighted Music and Videos

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### **Someone Can Find Out If You Download And Save Copyrighted Music and Videos**

Most of us are aware of the controversy over copyright ownership and digital technology. Recent publicity surrounding digital music sharing services and infringement lawsuits has given these issues a very high profile in today's news. Despite this publicity and recent legislation for the illegal digital sharing and storage of copyrighted material, many people still wrongly believe there is no real damage or penalty that can result from participating in these acts.

Central Missouri State University treats copyright infringement very seriously. As a user of Central's computer network services, it is important that you aware of your rights and responsibilities regarding copyright law.

#### The Facts of Copyright Law:

- It is illegal to violate the copyright law, including sharing music and videos without permission from the copyright owner.
- Copyright owners have begun using "sniffer" software to aggressively search for people who are providing copyrighted songs and videos to others over the Internet without the copyright owner's permission.
- Student's who violate the copyright law using Central's computer network services may be subject to losing all computer network privileges. Continued abuse may result in suspension from the university.
- In order to better protect copyrights, Central's computer network is being upgraded so that all users will be required to sign on to the network for all network and internet-related activities.

Further information about the copyright law may be found at Central's <http://www.cmsu.edu/dmca> web site. Please review this web site for more information about copyright infringement. Your assistance in maintaining the University's compliance with copyright law is greatly appreciated.