

# The Washington Post

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### *An answer to copyright challenges*

**R**egarding The Post's March 28 editorial "Google Books — unsettled," it is indeed true that "an essential piece of any such solution is a body . . . that would be able to search for rights holders, [disburse] funds and oversee collective licensing of copyright works." In fact, such an organization has been in existence for more than 30 years: the Copyright Clearance Center.

We work closely with authors, publishers and their representatives to provide voluntary, opt-in, nonexclusive licensing for corporate, government and academic users, while respecting the rights of individual rights holders to control and be fairly compensated for the use of their works. We partner with rights holders and similar collective licensing organizations around the world to provide "one-stop shopping" for rights licensing, as The Post suggested.

While the outcome of the Google Books case is not yet clear, Judge Denny Chin's opinion appears to be an endorsement of opt-in collective licensing.

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The writer is president and chief executive of the Copyright Clearance Center.