

Letter to IFPI

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Robert Waldeck and I would like to express my sincere apologies for creating any frustration or problems regarding copyright infringement on the part of your organization and the artists you represent.

I became aware of strikes against my Vimeo account this week and realized that it resulted in my account being disabled. I contacted Vimeo and a representative informed me that I need to contact the claimant to see if you are willing to remove the strikes against my account so it can be restored.

Please understand that I am both a filmmaker and a high school media teacher from Canada. The videos that infringed on copyright issues were created by my media students. I used my Vimeo account to showcase a Film Festival each year of student work. Here are some of the links:

<https://fhcimedia.weebly.com/film-festival-2018.html>

<https://fhcimedia.weebly.com/film-festival-2012.html>

To be clear, Vimeo has granted me temporary access for 1 week to download the student work so I can use those videos for private classroom screenings. The videos that I had uploaded were 10 years worth of student examples only meant to showcase their hard work. I didn't mean to upset any musical artists or anybody from the recording industry. The students were using music from all sorts of sources, and I should have been more vigilant in watching copyright issues. Honestly, I made the mistake of thinking it was only for educational purposes so it wouldn't cause any problems.

I would like to thank you for providing me with a valuable lesson. I have already used this experience in my classroom to express the importance of copyright music and intellectual property with my students.

Going forward, I will only be posting online content with music created by the students or music that I have purchased. Any videos that may contain copyright music will only be shown privately in class.

Based on the information I have provided you, I hope that your organization will show me some leniency and remove the strikes from my account so I can have my Vimeo account restored.

Thank you for your time and understanding,
Rob