



**HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS
ECONOMIC CRIME SQUAD
CENTRAL SERVICE
SPECIAL FINANCIAL INVESTIGATIONS DEPARTMENT
SPECIAL FINANCIAL CASES DIVISION**

Athens, 12.12.2000

Protocol No 110491

Post Address 124, Kifisias Ave
Postal Code: 115 26
Telephone: 6994.304
Fax: 6980.674

TO: The District
Departments of E.C.S

Topic: Copyright protection.

The protection of artistic creations sold in the form of CDs and tapes is incorporated among E.C.S.' responsibilities in regard to copyright protection.

Due to the fact that an extended reproduction and release of counterfeit products in the market is observed, leading to significant tax evasion and depriving creators of important income, we request that you include in your daily inspections another one, regarding the illegal release and use of pirate products of musical compositions.

More specifically:

- During the inspection verifications performed by the inspection crews at business establishments using music, like:
Bars
Cafeterias
Confectionaries
Entertainment facilities
Entertainment centres, etc,
as well as at the retail shops trading this kind of products, the purchase vouchers and the authenticity of their CDs must be inspected. In case the voucher cannot be produced at the time of the inspection and the crew cannot thus determine whether the CDs are original or not, a summit will be given so that all purchase invoices are produced within 5 days. If the crew concludes with certainty that the products are not original, they will be confiscated and the persons accountable will be arrested and indicted according to the proceedings for arrestable offences.
- During transportation inspections and especially at the toll gates, inspections must be performed at vehicles with foreign license plates, driven mostly by colored persons, who are the main responsible for the carriage and selling of the specific products. When such a case occurs, the proceedings for the arrestable offences will be followed.
- During the inspections in malls, open-air markets, etc, apart from the other inspections, the crews should control the legal selling of music CDs as well.

For the validation of the products, a specialized investigator, appointed by the competent copyright protection bodies will be available for each division, through our Department.

In view of the upcoming holidays, where the activity related to the specific products rises, we request that the inspection crews are as active as possible in this field.

The Director

Panayotis Douvis

