

# Free Dmitry!

*Dmitry Sklyarov is being prosecuted under a new law that threatens your rights.*



Dmitry Sklyarov—a Russian citizen and employee of Elcomsoft—authored software that enables an Adobe eBook purchaser to print the book for later reading, to make a backup copy of the book, and other legitimate uses that Adobe's software limits or does not allow. The software can also enable the visually impaired to have their computers read the book aloud.

Recently, Dmitry presented what he had learned about Adobe's eBook format at a computer security conference in Las Vegas. In response, Adobe filed a criminal complaint with the FBI, who arrested Dmitry for *alleged* violations of the controversial Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) as he was packing to go home. Now, even though Adobe has withdrawn support for the case and has called for Dmitry's release, he is still being detained. Dmitry's wife and two children in Russia still await his return.

Dmitry is *not* accused of pirating copyrighted material! He is accused, instead, of merely writing software that *allows* access to copyrighted material. Just as a copy machine or computer scanner *could* be used to pirate paper books, a VCR *could* be used to pirate movies, a cassette recorder *could* be used to pirate music—any tool *could* be misused. Misuse of tools should be illegal, not the tools themselves!

In fact, since Dmitry wrote the software in Russia, the only “crime” he has committed in the US is sharing his findings publicly—an expression of our First Amendment free speech rights guaranteed to anyone in the United States.

Visit these websites for more information about:

- this case, [www.freesklyarov.org](http://www.freesklyarov.org).
- the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA,) [www.anti-dmca.org](http://www.anti-dmca.org).
- civil liberties and technology, [www.eff.org](http://www.eff.org).
- local Free Dmitry events, [la.freesklyarov.org](http://la.freesklyarov.org).

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## Next Event:

Candlelight Vigil on Monday, August 13 at 5:00-8:00 PM  
Westwood Federal Building, 11000 Wilshire Boulevard,  
Late arrivals are welcome--but *please attend*

Upcoming and ongoing events:

Each Saturday at 2:00 PM: Leafletting, petition signing, Santa Monica Promenade (3<sup>rd</sup> and Broadway)  
Rally, Thursday, August 30, 5:00-8:00 PM: Westwood Federal Building (11000 Wilshire Boulevard).