

Garth Bruen  
32 Milton Road - Brookline, MA  
617.947.3805 - [gbruen@knujon.com](mailto:gbruen@knujon.com)  
July 18, 2011

ICANN President Rod Beckstrom

GAC Chair Heather Dryden

ALAC Chair Olivier MJ Crepin-Leblond

Dear Ms. Dryden and Messrs Beckstrom and Crepin-Leblond:

I am applying for the immediate opening to the WHOIS Review Team as an At-Large representative.

Since 2003 I have been analyzing policy and issues concerning the WHOIS system. I have developed a high-volume analytical engine that feeds data to ICANN's WHOIS Data Problem Reporting System (WDPRS). It was through running this process that I became a catalyst in the upgrade of WDPRS and even assisting with testing of the new system. Beyond filing inaccuracy complaints, I have been engaged in a detailed analysis on the use and misuse of the WHOIS system. Based on my research I have published several major studies of Registrar adherence to their WHOIS obligations under the Registrar Accreditation Agreement (RAA). Our findings have prompted ICANN staff to take notice of certain problems within the Registrar industry. My research has also uncovered active manipulation of the WHOIS system. I am specifically concerned with the proper functioning of the WHOIS system because an accurate and transparent record set provides the foundation for a trust-based common Internet. I believe it is also critical to protect the privacy of individual Internet users and a middle-road balance can be achieved through proper tools and effective policy enhancement.

I run my own small company, KnujOn.com, which helps ordinary Internet users and small businesses combat fraud and abuse while assisting them in navigating the digital bureaucracy. My company runs partially on donations, voluntary membership fees, and contract work specifically geared to the public interest. Before dedicating to KnujOn.com full-time I was the Enterprise Content Management Project Manager and Chief Analyst for MassHousing, Massachusetts' state-chartered mortgage bank. I automated internal mortgage processing through rules-based software and custom applications while ensuring the privacy of client data. In general I have used my Masters Degree in Public Policy Development and Software Engineering training to streamline critical processes and serve the public.

Since joining the North American Regional At-Large (NARALO) I have been seeking ways to contribute more and provide results to the Internet community. I appreciate your consideration for this post.

Sincerely,

Garth Bruen