

The Artist and The PPSR

What is the PPSR

The Personal Property Security Register is an online register for the registration of interests in all personal property. An artist may use the register to protect an interest in artworks that are delivered to a gallery for sale.

Why Protection is Required

In recent years a number of commercial galleries have had liquidators or receivers appointed by creditors. After the appointment of these external administrators artists have had difficulty recovering paintings that were left on consignment with the gallery. In many cases, artists lost the value of the artworks because the external controllers refused to recognise the interest of the artists.

Consignment Arrangements and Registration

To gain the protection afforded by the register the consignment arrangements must be in writing identifying the artist, the gallery and the artworks being consigned. It is important that there be a clear identification of the artworks and the identification mark on the painting be the same as in the consignment document.

After registration by the artist no one can legally take ownership of the work without dealing with the artist, who no doubt would require payment of money owing before giving up registration. Registration also gives the artist the right to enforce the interest in the courts.

How to Register

The interest of the artist reflected in the consignment document is registered online and on registration all of the artworks referred to in the document gain protection.

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Prepared for the Australian Commercial Galleries Association

Useful Links

[Tutorial on PPSR - Australian Government Website](#)

[Create a Registration - Australian Government Website](#)