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PUBLISHING

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Lawyers recommend that publishers protect themselves scrupulously when negotiating with freelancers.

Folio: Magazine, Dec 15, 1999 - Lawrence Savell, counsel with Chadbourne & Parke LLP, advises that beyond acquisition rights, publishers also address several additional items in contracts with freelance writers:

"Delivery of an unacceptable manuscript should not automatically require payment," Savell cautions. He also points out that publishers should request written assurance that the writer is indeed the sole author.

Savell also recommends that contracts include permission from the freelancers for the use of their names, bio, photo etc. in promotions - to be used by the publisher or a third party.

Writers, read your contracts!