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September 18, 2014

I represent the Rosalind Kirby Trust, which administers the properties of Jack Kirby, and have done so for many years. From 1981 until 1987, I represented Jack.

A small but loud controversy seems to be raging in a few corners of the internet over the disposition of several thousand pages of copied images. These are scanned (copied) pages of Jack Kirby's pencil art that Jack and his wife Roz stored in their home. At some point, Greg Theakston, who was then an occasional visitor to the Kirby home, arranged to have a large quantity of them shipped to his home across the country. There seems to now be a dispute over whether this was a gift or a loan.

I have checked with all the members of the Kirby family who could possibly know anything about this, and also with close friends of the family. The unanimous consensus is that Roz Kirby expected the return of those pages as well as other items Mr. Theakston had borrowed for research purposes, and that she was very upset that he was not complying with her demands that all of the material which she had loaned to him be returned to her. Roz also loaned similar material to John Morrow, publisher of The Jack Kirby Collector, and co-trustee of the Jack Kirby Museum and Research Center, who clearly understood the material was on loan and acted accordingly.

Regardless of whether Mr. Theakston believed the art he received to be a loan or a gift, he has, on several occasions, indicated a willingness to return the copies of Jack Kirby pencil art in question. As but one example, in September of 2009, he wrote to my client Lisa, daughter of Jack and Roz, and as you can see, explicitly stated that he was donating it all to the Jack Kirby Museum and Research Center:

"As forty years of investigation draws to a close I have donated almost all of my Kirby files to Rand and the museum. Probably six to eight boxes of paperwork, including my set of copies of your father's Xerox copies (thousands), as well

as copies of all of the taped interviews I did with your father, related interviews, and all of the video footage I have. Just about everything I've collected went to the museum, and getting a collector to part with it is hard. Not so much. I've stood behind the man for the better part of my life and collected it for a reason: to be passed on. Finally, a museum to donate this material to: Perfect timing."

My client was very happy to have the Museum receive and archive the donated material. The Trust also has allowed the Kirby Museum to do that with the pages that Mr. Theakston did not have. If the Trust had possession of those other pages, it would have had the Museum store them and proceed with its mission, which is to make high-quality scans of it all. This ensures that these examples of Jack's work are preserved and can be made available to his many fans and to researchers. As far as my client is concerned, delivering the material to Rand Hoppe and the loyal volunteers of the Kirby Museum is just as good as returning it to the Kirby family.

Rand Hoppe, John Morrow and the other good people involved in the Jack Kirby Museum and Research Center are doing the name of Kirby a great and selfless service. They do not deserve personal attacks, especially personal attacks based on erroneous information.