Intellectual Property involves
Copyright
U. S. Copyright Office
http://www.copyright.gov/circs/circ1.html#wccc
Patents and Trademarks
United States Patent & Trademark Office
http://www.uspto.gov/

World Intellectual Property Organization
http://www.wipo.org/

Circular 1: Copyright Basics
U. S. Copyright Office
http://www.copyright.gov/circs/circ1.html#wccc

Fair Use
http://www.copyright.gov/title17/92chap1.html#107
§ 107. Limitations on exclusive rights: Fair use
Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 106 and 106A, the fair use of a copyrighted work, including such use by reproduction in copies or phonorecords or by any other means specified by that section, for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research, is not an infringement of copyright. In determining whether the use made of a work in any particular case is a fair use the factors to be considered shall include —
1. the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
2. the nature of the copyrighted work;
3. the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and
4. the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work. The fact that a work is unpublished shall not itself bar a finding of fair use if such finding is made upon consideration of all the above factors.

In the United States, Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act of 1998 retroactively extended the duration of copyright from the life of author plus fifty years to the life of the author plus seventy years, in the case of individual works, and from seventy-five years to ninety-five years in the case of works of corporate authorship and works first published before January 1, 1978.
http://www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sonny_Bono_Copyright_Term_Extension_Act

Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA)
www.loc.gov/copyright/legislation/dmca.pdf

Summaries:
http://pirate.shu.edu/~jenninju/AIL/DMCA/DMCASummary.htm
http://www.loc.gov/copyright/reports/studies/dmca/dmca_executive.html