July 19, 2015

Copyright Office, Library of Congress

Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket No. 2015-01)

To Whom it May Concern

Hello—my name is Evan Stanley. I am a freelance illustrator and student of animation and illustration at San Jose State University. I am just beginning my professional career, but the recently-proposed reforms to U.S. copyright law have caused me to worry for the feasibility of my chosen livelihood.

Working as a freelance illustrator, it's essential for me to be able to retain the rights to my work, for the purposes of resale, licensing, and royalties. For a freelance illustrator, this is often where the bulk of their income will come from. Under the new reforms, it would become significantly more difficult for an individual to retain ownership of their intellectual property; paying a third party to prove copyright ownership for each work created (as would be required) is not practical for the individual. For this reason, I humbly ask you to reconsider your plans to reform our copyright laws in the ways suggested by the orphan works copyright act.

Thank you for your time,

Evan S.