Dear Ms. Pallane and staff of the Copyright Office,

Thank you for the opportunity to make not only my voice, but other artist's voices heard on the prospected changes for the Copyright laws. I am writing to you to inform you of just a few of the reasons why artists of the digital kind and not. Below I will be answering the questions you have proposed to the best of my abilities.

1. *What are the most significant challenges related to monetizing and/or licensing photographs, graphic artworks, and/or illustrations?*

The significant challenges related to both monetization and licensing photographs, graphic artworks, and illustrations is the fact that people make livings off of their work. I've seen people face losing their means and sources of income just because they were not able to meet ends in the ways that they are able to. Another challenge is that most people who are digital artists and receive money from their artwork face the fact that sometimes they are not able to or can afford to license their work, as some may or may not make just enough to make their lives livable with just the necessities. Some may not even know where to look; not every site on the internet lists where you can register for a license for your work. This even goes to photographers who sell their prints online. They, too, need a place to be able to bring in some money from what they love to do. This extends to all types of artists on the internet; people need a means of making money off of their own hard earned work, regardless of whether or not they have a job outside of using their own works.

2. *What are the most significant enforcement challenges for photographers, graphic artists, and/or illustrators?*

The most significant enforcement challenges for all artists- photographers, graphic artists, and illustrators- is their work being stolen, claimed as someone else's, or even being traced for someone else to earn a profit by the original artist's hard work and time put in all without permission. Artists need more help getting their stolen work off of whatever site it may be posted, whether it's a well known site or not artists should be able to report that their work is being used without their permissions and be able to have swift actions taken to have the work removed. Art being stolen or used without following the original poster's requests(i.e. stock photos or free/pay to use out lines,) are in fact stolen work no matter how you view it.

3. *What are the most significant registration challenges for photographers, graphic artists, and/or illustrators?*

The Significant registration challenges for Photographers, graphic artists, and illustrators and finding a place that will register one's work as being their own. The original artist should be able to have a copyright under the fact that they did make the work and posted it within the means of a site. In many cases, other artists as well as myself have placed signatures on their work to make sure that regardless of if it's edited or reposted, people who have viewed the original work can inform the original artist that they are either being impersonated, copied, or stolen from regardless of when and where it was originally posted. Artists shouldn't have to struggle to

report their stolen work regardless of registration. And, in some cases, repeat offenders are not even warned or reprimanded for the theft or improper use.

4. *What are the most significant challenges or frustrations for those who wish to make legal use of photographs, graphic art works, and/or illustrations?*

As an artist, I and many others, use other artist's images for reference towards anatomy or inspiration. However, many always maintain staying and following the posted rules and means of use from the original poster. In this way, the original poster can maintain their work and ensure that it is being properly used without a person stealing or using it in a way that would harm them. Although this is a fact upon the internet, I do make sure that my original unreferenced work is all of my own; from concept to finished piece is mine. Even with referencing, artists can make the piece 'their own' from concept to finished piece. Most people use stock images as a basis for learning a species' anatomy, many people using stock images of dogs, horses or even people to help them get better. Of course all of it within proper means.

5. *What other issues or challenges should the Office be aware of regarding photographs, graphic artworks, and/or illustrations under the Copyright Act?*

Knowing and finding registries that meet an artist's needs. In many cases, art sites have their own rules & copyright laws or rules for an artist's work and believe that as long as they have it posted somewhere, they can report it as stolen. Having seen my own inbox on an art website having more than one occasional post about a warning for someone about a user editing, claiming, and posting another person's work as their own. And usually, many people take action and report said user but with prolonged response for any reprimand towards the thief and the stolen work. People are contactable for their artwork, and there is no reason for a person to use the work from a contactable artist. In many cases, users who use another person's own work do not care to even attempt to make contact to the artist. With that, it's where the issue comes in.

6. *What are the most significant challenges artists would face if these new copyright proposals become law?*

The challenges that artists would face if the new copyright proposals became law is income. They would have to prove that they own the artwork, and may even have to go out of their way to register their work. However, many don't know where to look for a place to register their work. And in some cases, maintaining their registered work can cost them money out of pocket which some may not be able to afford. With focus on the Orphaned Work, there is no right way to go about it. Many of the works of art that show up under image searches are made by someone, regardless of if they are able to be contacted, almost all of the artwork seen on the internet belongs to a person or persons if it is a commissioned. Regardless of if the image is registered, the artist and their work must be protected. If the work is not protected, many of the artists people see on the internet may start to drift away from posting their work and no one wants that.

I would like to finish with the reiteration of thanks for allowing myself and others the chance to share why the current Copyright Laws should not be changed. If you need to contact me, I ask that you email me as it is a faster and easier way to get a hold of me. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jaime Hanley