July 18, 2015

Maria Pallante

Register of Copyrights

U.S. Copyright Office

101 Independence Ave. S.E.

Washington, DC 20559-6000

RE: Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress

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

Dear Ms. Pallante,

Hello, my name is Brittany Virgallito. I am a freelance artist with a Bachelor's Degree in Digital Art based in the State of Ohio. I have had some of my artwork shown in the Fine Arts Gallery of Bowling Green State University where I attended. I also sell my unique creations at Artist Allies in the state of Ohio. I'm writing to you to address concerns about the proposed copyright reforms.

As an emerging artist, I am still trying to find my niche in the art world. On top of that, I am still paying back my student loans. I am doing this by working a part time job in retail, something not related to the field of art.

At this time, it would not be plausible for me to have to register all of my current and upcoming works into a database that would likely need upkeep fees. It's just not something I can afford, nor should I have to pay for. It would be like asking new parents to copyright their child the moment it is born.

Artists are always coming up with new ideas; whether it is a visual piece or an intellectual one. For some it happens as often as every day. How would it benefit an artist to have to register for a new copyright each and every day just so that they do not risk theft of their properties? The cost

of these registrations would be astronomical, and consequently rob artists of any income they would have made otherwise.

Lastly, I would like to add that the proposal of this reform is downright preposterous in accordance with the First Amendment Laws. I've been noticing a startling trend in recent years of laws being proposed that throw this and my Constitutional Rights to the wayside. I am so tired of big corporations thinking that the rights of the people are far less important than their need to make a profit.

I would like to thank you for taking the time to read my letter, and implore you to reconsider these reforms. It would hurt a good number of people, not just in the United States, but potentially worldwide if this were to come to pass. It is time we extend a hand to our artists; for whom without, this country would be a lot less inventive.

Sincerely,

Brittany Virgallito