July 23, 2015

U.S. Copyright Office
101 Independence Ave. S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20559-6000

RE: Notice of Inquiry on Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works.

As a visual artist who has created 1000's of images , I urge you to reconsider the proposal to require our country's most challenged group of professionals to lose more income to corporations, commercially-minded individuals, and other thieves, while having to spend more to copyright work that is a result of long hours and intelligent labor . With the proposed ability to copyright derivative works of any artist, the proposal gives too much responsibility to employees of the U.S. Copyright Office by burdening them with the determination of whether or not a work is derivative or a direct theft. The very thought of it is hazardous to the creativity and intelligence that made the U.S. a great nation.

You cannot have innovation without creativity, and visual artists need the respect and freedom to aid that innovation along. We are part of the greatness that is the United States of America. Please find a way to protect our work without causing greater harm. We need protection, not an invoice and a mandate to hand over our work to anyone who wants to mess it up and call it their own.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Louise Montillio
Visual Artist
Massachusetts