July 22, 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 & U.S. Copyright Office Staff:

I am an artist currently exploring art licensing opportunities. While I work another job full time, my goal is to become a professional full-time artist and earn income from my art. That income depends upon my ability to grant permission for others to use my images.

If the proposed changes to the copyright act are upheld, my future art career will be jeopardized. With the proliferation of images across the internet and other social media vehicles, it is easier than ever for an individual or company to assume ownership of images and exact a profit from them with no consent from the artist. My artwork belongs to me, and I reserve the right to sell or license it as I see fit. My future depends upon being able to control the use and distribution of my art.

Please consider my livelihood and that of other artists before making changes to the current law. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Laura Levie

Digitally signed by Laura Levie
DN: cn=Laura Levie, o=Bancography, ou, email=laura@bancography.com, c=US
Date: 2015.07.22 15:04:58 -05'00'

– You might want to stress that it's important to you that you determine how and by whom your work is used.

–You might wish to state that even if you are a hobbyist, you would not welcome someone else monetizing your work for their own profit without your knowledge or consent.