Dear Copyright Office,

I would first like to thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I understand that all the employees are very busy, so I will not write a long letter to take up too much of your time.

I understand that everyone people need to find the right artwork for their upcoming projects. However, not paying freelance artists like myself is unacceptable.

I have just now opened my eyes to what it is that I need to do to accomplish my goals to become a successful artist in the world of visual development. Great artists (and teachers) have dedicated their lives to helping people like me succeed by using the Internet at their disposal. I don't know where I would be without them.

For them and myself, copyright is law is NOT an abstract legal issue, but the basis on which our business rests. We copyright OUR work so that if anyone were to infringe OUR work, it would be no different then someone breaking into OUR homes and stealing. We all work to push ourselves to the next level of success. Thus, gaining more clientele that sometimes become our friends. Our work NEVER loses its value no matter how we decide to use it. All of our work is part of no one else's business inventory but their own. With the new digital age, it is more important then ever before.

My interest in copyright law is will always be among the following three,

- The work remains between me and the client
- The right to be paid
- The right to be considered the "Creator"

I have an Associates degree in illustration that I worked extremely hard to achieve. I am also the only person in my entire family to have a degree in absolutely anything. However, I feel like the education I have been receiving from online art courses I have paid for, has been the education I have always wanted and needed.

I really hope that this letter will make copyright laws stay the way they are and not change. I have never wanted anything more in life then a career in the entertainment industry as a Visual Development artist. I also know that I am not alone. Me and many others like me will ALWAYS work hard to achieve our goals. Thank you for your time.

- Matthew Gilson