July 23, 2015

Maria Pallante
Register of Copyrights
U.S. Copyright Office
101 Independence Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20559-6000

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

Dear Ms. Palate, and to whom it may concern,

I appreciate this opportunity to express concern over the pending copyright law change. I have been a professional artist for over twenty years, working in the field of illustration, portraiture and fine art. For the last 20 years, this has been my life's work, and I have not held any other jobs, but have managed to always make a living with my brush. Through much struggle and hard work, I have developed styles that are unique to me and have value in the marketplace. I have created may works over the years that have continued to provide important income by way of licensing my images for use. This copyright law to me, is not an abstract legal issue, but directly attacks an important source of income much needed for the raising of my young family of four children. I do not see how, if this law is enacted, this is any different than stealing this portion of my income. It is important to my business that I remain able to determine voluntarily how and by whom my work is used. The work I create becomes part of my business inventory and is my visual intellectual property, and it only makes sense that I ought to be able choose what is done

with it, and have control over it to help ensure my livelihood. I do not believe that my work loses value because of publication. I ask you to please consider how important this issue is for someone like myself who is a working, professional artist and creator of imagery, and the impact a change in the law could have on my income and family. Please uphold the laws that protect my copyrights to my own work.

Sincerely,

Michael Malm

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