July 27, 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,

I am not currently a professional artist, though I have been drawing and creating my entire life and I want nothing more in the world than to be a self-sustaining visual artist.

I fear the passing of this law would effectively hinder the necessary growth of my future business. Being a currently unknown artist and having no way to stop others from removing my watermarks, my work could easily be considered "orphaned." Instead of me receiving the much needed attention for my work, others would experience any success of my pieces while I remain in the shadows.

Artists consider their creations their brain children and an expression of themselves. That may seem strange, but every time I create something I'm pouring a little bit of myself into that piece. No one wants to see their child manipulated and exploited. You want them to always be cherished and appreciated in their original form; the way their creator intended them to be.

As an emerging artist, I am very concerned for and protective of the pieces I make. With the passing of this law and the potential for others to steal and modify my work, I would hesitate to share my work on the internet. If I cannot confidently put my work in front of collectors and potential buyers then my business doesn't exist. I feel this will extinguish the passionate embers in the hearts of many young creatives as they realize becoming a professional artist is no longer a viable career. Artists are much too important to let their fires fade.

Affording things like health and dental insurance are substantially more difficult for anyone who is self-employed rather than those with full-time jobs and benefits. Visual artists need all the help they can get when it comes to rightfully getting paid for their hard work and dedication to

the arts. That is why I instead support Congressman Jerrold Nadler's American Royalties Too (ART) Act of 2015. I thank the Copyright Office for recommending this bill to Congress.

And thank you for issuing the first Notice of Inquiry dedicated to examining copyright and visual artists. I appreciate you taking the time to read this letter. My future is in your hands.

Sincerely,

Nataya Pett