



September 28, 2015

Maria Pallante, Register of Copyrights

US 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 and Copyright Office Staff,

I am writing to reply to the comments collected by the Visual Arts Notice of Inquiry. I'm pleased to see the robust response from the visual artist community. As an illustrator of 30+ years, I strongly support the comments that were submitted by the Illustrators Partnership, of which I belong. The organization has been a respected advocate for the rights of freelance artists like myself by raising awareness of the Constitutional issues pertaining to the proposed orphan works legislation.

I strongly agree with the position the Illustrators Partnership has taken and urge you to do the same. No individual or entity should have rights that supersede those of a visual artist's. Property belongs to its owner, not a scavenger who has no ability to produce or commission such creative work. Actions that strip away income potential of artists are destructive to a vital and necessary part of our society.

I'm not going to dive into the legal or Constitutional issues. It's been made clear over and over again. What I leave you with is the understanding that creation of new images is what distinguishes us culturally. Those seeking reproduction rights of images without compensation, is crassly opportunistic. Each work created takes time, care and expertise, which should all be duly rewarded to its creator. The value is everlasting and should be the reward of the dedicated who continue to create.

Sincerely,

Mark D. Stutzman, V.P.

Eloqui, Inc.

Illustrator, 1993 Elvis Presley Stamp