

Dear Sirs/Madames,

The United States Copyright Office has proposed “new fees for the registration of claims, recordation of documents, special services, Licensing Division services, and processing of FOIA requests.” This includes the registration of photographs using form VA through eCO or paper filings.

The basic change for photographers would be an electronic filing that now has a fee of \$35 would go to \$65. A paper filing that now is \$65 would go to \$100. I am concerned that increased fees will deter the registration of images by photographers because of the higher cost.

Making the registration process more expensive is not a way for the Copyright Office and the Library of Congress to fulfill its mission “To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries” (U.S. Constitution, Article 1, Section 8)

I believe that we should avoid new fees on copyrights. I am an artist and it would be extremely difficult for me to absorb additional fees. It would probably deter me from registering my images at all!

Please reconsider. Most artists and photographers I know are not in the position to pay exorbitant fees.

Sincerely,

Debra Bretton Robinson