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July 18, 2015

Maria Pallante
Register of Copyrights
US Copyright Office
101 Independence Ave, SE
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 Associates:

The analogy of David and Goliath is appropriate in regards to the potential new copyright law. Most artists are Davids. We work alone. We spend years studying, creating, and practicing our talents before we have the opportunity to benefit monetarily. Once we are finally in the position of becoming professional artists, we are sole proprietors who spend long hours each day creating our works, advertising them, researching potential markets, networking with peers and clients, creating and maintaining our own websites, negotiating contracts, etc., most often without the benefit of the legal teams, advertising departments, paid lobbyists, and the seemingly unlimited monetary resources of the Goliaths of the industry who ultimately benefit from our work.

In addition, as citizens of the United States, we have always enjoyed the right to hold and maintain our own personal property, and that's what art is—*intellectual property that manifests itself in tangible form*. Article 1, Section 8 of the Constitution of the United States says in part: **"...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..."**

In the digital age it has become far too easy to steal an artist's intellectual property and hide or destroy its provenance, but that does not relieve the United States government of its responsibility in its contract with the citizens as set forth in the Constitution. Having the Copyright Office recommend legislation that would make it even easier for thieves, especially thieves the size of Goliath with their legal might and massive bank accounts, to profit from artists who often don't have the time or the money to fight, is not the United States that was created for "*We the People,*" whose sovereign rights also include the pursuit of happiness, the freedom of speech, and the freedom of expression.

I do not support any legislation that limits or takes away the inherent and sovereign rights of creators, whether those creators be writers, musicians, or artists. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelley Pounds