To the Copyright Office
Regarding its Notice of Inquiry on
Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works

It has come to my attention that letters are being sought to clarify what copyright means to visual artists and what changing the copyright laws would mean to a working illustrator.

I've been a working illustrator my entire adult life. In 1987 I graduated college and became an illustrator. I am currently the president of the Society of Illustrators in New York City and an award-winning illustrator.

Since 1987 I've earned my income solely by selling the rights to my work. In that time these images form the basis of my career's work and my livelihood. Re-sales of these rights are a significant portion of my income.

My work is MY WORK. No person should have a public right to use my copyrights, my images just because they want them. Currently through copyright registration I have many of my images secured. Should copyright law be changed to allow the publics' right to use my work, it was severely harm my future earnings.

Here are some important facts to state about my work and my career:

My past works are valuable to my family and me.

My work does not lose value over time.

My work, my sketches and my past assignments are among the most important illustrations of the past 25 years. These include over 20 Time Magazine Covers, such as Men of the Year covers, Osama Bin Laden Time cover, Kaddafi Time cover and many others. I've illustrated the hugely popular Hunger Games book covers.

In the digital era, outright thefts and illegal uses of our work is easier than ever. These copyright laws protect our life's work. Stealing our copyrights means stealing our money. Please maintain the power of the current copyright law for artists and illustrators. We thrive on these laws

Thank you for your time, for reading this document and for your consideration.

Regards,

Tim O'Brien ~ 310 Marlborough Road, Brooklyn NY 11226

Freelance Illustrator

President of the Society of Illustrators