7.17.15

Dear Copyright Office,

I am an aspiring digital illustrator and current chalk ink artist. I have two degrees in art and having been working as an artist for a prominent local retailer for almost five years.

Copyright is important to me, as it will have everything to do with my future capacity to provide for my wife and three children as I am the primary breadwinner in my home. The success of my business will depend upon being able to—without financial obligation—secure the rights to what I create by virtue of creating it.

When copyright is infringed in any way it will mean that my money is being stolen. I, the creator of my work should have sole discretion about who uses it and how, and should be guaranteed compensation therefor.

Can you imagine the effort and time taken to create a masterful illustration and then to be denied any profit therefrom following its publication? Everything I create is business inventory, from which I can hope to build a financial base, and even secure a supplemental income despite the normal flux of freelance work.

Said inventory will be the difference between prosperity for my family, or destitution.

Again, I created it. Any unauthorized use of my work by any entity would be theft, and instead of being able to take care of my family, my children would go hungry, I would not be able to secure a home, and my chances of making a living using my talents and considerable education would be nil.

Do not allow any reform that would deprive individual creators of asserting their right to remuneration for the use of their work.

Do not allow changes that would pressure me to register my work with commercial registries.

I want exclusive control of my own creations. That seems fair, doesn't it?

Thank you,

Taylor Hellewell
1759 Osage Orange Ave. Apt C
Holladay, UT 84124