492 Main Street
Northport, NY 11768

July 23, 2015

Ms. Catherine Rowland
Senior Advisor to the Register of Copyrights
U.S. Copyright Office

Dear Ms. Rowland,

I am writing with regard to your notice of inquiry regarding visual works and the new Copyright act. Although I am employed as a full-time medical illustrator in a NYC hospital, I do a bit of freelance work to supplement my income. I would hope that the many hours of research and artistry that go into my work would be protected by copyright law.

Of equal concern, however, is the practice of large publishing houses that are taking the work of medical illustrators, after their extensive research on a topic, close work with physicians or researchers to present a procedure, anatomical condition, or cellular process with utmost accuracy and precision, and many hours of rendering to create a beautiful illustration, and claiming all copyright on them. They are not acknowledging the work of those illustrators, or compensating them. Instead, they have their own staff illustrators take the work and copy it for their textbooks, and them claiming all copyright ownership. Please protect our work- this is so terribly wrong.

Respectfully,
Susan Weil-Kazzaz