Maria Pallante
Register of Copyrights
U.S. Copyright Office
101Independence Ave. S.E.
Washington, DC 20559-6000

RE: Notice of Inquiry, Copyright Office, Library of Congress
Copyright Protection for Certain Visual Works (Docket No. 2015-01)

July 23 2015

Dear Ms. Pallante and the Staff of the Copyright Office,

I have worked as an illustrator, graphic artist, and fine artist for over 41 years, working on my own personal artistic expression and as a visualizer for companies and clients. I've had the great fortune to work in retail advertising, professional theater, corporate, and government contracting publishing as illustrator, designer, production artist, and manager as an employee, a freelancer, a consultant, and a contractor.

I find this to be a very simple and honest breakdown of my creative relationship and product rights in partnership with those for and with whom I work: to me, copyright is a basic and simple idea: I did this; whether it is an illustration, design, process, musical composition, choreography, recipe, exposition, or widget. If I did it for me from my own drive and creativity it is mine to share. If I do it for a direct client, I have done it for them and ownership and usage is on the agreed-upon balance of rights to share. If I did it as an employee for a company from their idea and task, it is work for hire and they own it to share. I am compensated on an on-going or one-time basis depending upon those parameters.

I recognize that tracking image use in the digital age is a daunting task, however, I have researched images myself and found it relatively easy to track down the originator of illustration and photographic works through web searches and the amazing Google images application. Sometimes it takes tenacity, but it can be done. I also understand that with the already massive amount of digitalized work on the Internet, there is a social-level concept that if it is on the web it is free.

We have in place systems whereby a creative can maintain income from their work by selling through their own business, working through an agent, or licensing their work to a stock agency for per-use fee.

I believe I have the ownership of my creative product and my rights to all or part of the income from that work and it's use (except work-for-hire) per situation.

Sincerely,
Susan Harriet Baker
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Production, & Management
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