

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](mailto:FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty)  
**Cc:** [info@copyrightalliance.org](mailto:info@copyrightalliance.org)  
**Subject:** My thoughts on my rights as a creator  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 16, 2010 4:30:50 PM

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Dear Ms. Espinel -

The Copyright Alliance has informed me of this welcome invitation from the Obama Administration to share my thoughts on my rights as a creator.

My name is Tara Reed and I am a self-employed artist who makes a living licensing my art to manufacturers for use on products. Without the current or even more stringent copyright laws and penalties for piracy, my livelihood will be impacted. I rely on companies respecting my copyrights and paying me for use - without that, I would be another unemployment statistic.

With the internet and digital nature of business today, it is easier than ever for less-than-reputable companies to steal art and design, sometimes selling it as their stock art to reputable companies. I see it at every trade show I attend - art by myself or my colleagues being used without permission. It is disheartening and expensive to combat. Any changes in the law will make the problem that much more dire.

I urge you to take the creative business owners, who pay taxes and fight to make a living, into account when considering any change to the copyright laws and especially the designation of "Orphaned Works". Tougher penalties and regulations should be put in place if any changes are being made. While it would be great to believe that people work from a place of honesty and integrity, it is unfortunately not always the case. Let's not encourage people to cut corners who will do so without any threat of legal or financial ramifications.

Sincerely,

Tara Reed  
Portland, Oregon  
Licensed Artist