

From: [REDACTED]
To: [FN-OMB-IntellectualProperty](#)
Subject: Copyright of Intellectual Property
Date: Saturday, March 20, 2010 7:09:43 PM

Dear Ms. Espinel and the Obama Administration:

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 Carol McArdle, I am an artist (painter) from Fort Myers, FL and I cannot emphasize enough how important it is to have my rights to always own my creations, or intellectual property, protected.

I have struggled for years to earn a living from my paintings. I am good at what I do (not just my opinion, galleries, museums and collectors have agreed by showing and purchasing my art) but being a good artist does not guarantee success and it takes a lot of effort to market my work. If, on top of this struggle, anyone could steal my art, created from my very soul, right out from under me it would be devastating. My livelihood would be taken from me and it would become almost impossible to do what I am doing now, creating beauty, digging deep to be better and better, sharing my vision with others.

To not protect this, my intellectual property would be a travesty. To allow others to take my talent and hard work and use it freely would be making theft legal. It would kill the desire to create, to be original, to be the best. Instead, as an artist I would have to realize it would make more sense to abandon honesty and purity in my work and simply copy what is already out there and create art only for myself, never to be shared.

Please be an artist's advocate and fight for us! We need you! We need our rights to be guarded and safe from thievery and we need the law to be 100% on our side.

Sincerely,

Carol McArdle