Scott-E-Krane-Mr-20050303193003

To: Jule L. Sigall

Associate Register for Policy & International Affairs

Date: 03/03/2005

From: Mr. Scott E. Krane

## Comment:

I find myself in the position of the stereotypical "starving artist." On a number of occasions I have been prevented from pursuing a particular aesthetic direction due to copyright issues and expenses.

For self-expression to be free it is necessary that it be unencumbered by excessive financial burdens as well as from violent coercion intended to silence it. Therefore it is imperative that copyright law protects the rights of authors without unduly burdening those who seek to draw upon previously published works.

This is a delicate balance to strike but as I'm sure you realize, free expression is the cornerstone of all other freedoms, making the achievement of that balance is absolutely necessary.