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**To:** [Fee.Setting](#)  
**Cc:** [TM FR Notices](#); [Cain, Catherine](#)  
**Subject:** Open Letter: Concern about intended implementation of LOP fee  
**Date:** Friday, August 30, 2019 7:22:30 AM

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To whom it may concern:

Yesterday I learned of the proposed implementation of a \$100 - \$200 fee to file a Letter Of Protest with the USPTO. I hereby wish to express my concern about this measure.

As a designer and small business owner I belong to a group of people who are gathered to fight frivolous trademarks, which all too often are granted by the USPTO, the most recent - outrageous - example being "DOGS". Such wordmarks are NOT true source identifiers but they are being used by their TM holders to bully their competition by enforcing takedowns, while in fact these wordmarks are being used in a mere decorative way on items like t-shirts, coffee mugs and such, by these same trademark holders.

IMHO the USPTO should consider this: in lieu of making it even more difficult for hardworking designers who try to make a living in an honorable way, why not make it more difficult for dishonest people who's only apparent objective is to trademark the entire dictionary and force people out of their livelihood? I propose you implement a fee/fine of \$200 - \$500 for those applicants who's wordmark application turns out to be frivolous and does not meet the rule of being a true source identifier.

Let the DOGS out!

Sincerely,

Johanna van de Mortel