From: <u>admin@arianamarshall.com</u>

To: <u>Fee.Setting</u>; <u>TM FR Notices</u>; <u>Cain, Catherine</u>

Subject: Proposal to Levy fee to submit a Letter of Protest to Frivolous Trademark Filings

Date: Monday, September 9, 2019 8:53:55 PM

In Regards to: Trademark Public Advisory Committee Public Hearing on the Proposed Trademark Fee Schedule // 84 FR 45470

To whom it may concern,

It understand a proposal has been made to levy a fee for submitting evidence in a letter of protest of newly filed trademarks.

Please consider raising the bar on registration of trademarks that provide merely ornamental evidence to a trademark application - and then there would not be a need to review as many letter of protests.

A deterrent to filing frivolous marks would be far more effective than to make it harder for people to assist the examining attorney by providing evidence in a protest. I understand there is a cost to reviewing every submitted letter of protest.

A simple solution could be to raise the fees for the initial application to deter attempts to file the frivolous mark in the first place.

For example if the average trademark receives 2 filed letters of protest I would propose keeping the LOP a free to file system and increase the cost of application by \$400 to offset the costs.

I would be happy to provide more feedback regarding this concerning issue that may raise the likelihood of trademark abuse.

Ariana Marshall A Maryland small business owner Severna Park, MD