From: <u>Kashyap Lakkad</u>

To: <u>TM FR Notices</u>; <u>Fee.Setting</u>; <u>Cain, Catherine</u> **Subject**: \$100-200 fee to submit a Letter of Protest (LOP)!

Date: Tuesday, October 1, 2019 5:08:29 AM

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the member of the Facebook Trademark Watch Dawgs Group. We are now over 10,000 concerned members reaching all facets of the merchandise industry. The group was created in early 2018 with the goal of completing Letters of Protest as a help measure to the USPTO. A support that would help the USPTO in making informed decisions on trademark applications. Our particular concern is frivolous trademark filings that are destroying small business within the international classes of 025, 016, 018, 009.

We now see an epidemic of trademark filings that are being approved yet not functioning as proper trademarks in the marketplace. These registrations are used in a monopolistic means to immediately issue illegal take downs to legal competition within marketplaces. Thousands of trademark filings have gamed the USPTO examination system with falsified information, fake specimens, hidden ornamental use, and common place words among many other reasons. To this day the only realistic cost effective line of defense against these trademark applications is for industry creators to file letters of protest in these classes.

Letters of protest have demonstrated high effectiveness. The high percent of acceptance for the letters filed have provided examining attorneys with correct evidence. It has been shown that the majority of this evidence has overcome incorrect information in these classes since our group formation. Multiple instances of pre-publication and post-publication filings have been correctly administered by the USPTO because of the letters of protest filed specifically by our group. These actions have saved the USPTO and business thousands of dollars and thousands of hours in current & future administration.

We as volunteers have donated countless hours of our own time completing letters of protest to help the USPTO. The proposed fee would penalize those efforts that reduce the time examiners need to make the correct decisions on applications. We feel this proposal is misguided in focus. We want to help fix a broken system in the classes listed. We are your ally in seeing proper registrations being approved through process. We oppose any fee that would limit the ability to provide this needed evidence. Evidence gathered by those that closely understand the industry of merchandise that is under attack by trademark trolls.

The letter of protest provides fundamental anonymous due process from concerned citizens & businesses before registrations are administered. By approving a letter of protest fee the USPTO will effectively encourage and increase the level of bad behavior by industry in the stated classes. Evidence will be missed due to the examiners current procedures that do not provide a mechanism to find said evidence. Frivolous trademarks will increase unabated and small business does not have the monetary resources to file these levels of oppositions or cancellations. The trademark actions will cost millions of dollars in plundered revenue to legitimate small business companies across the USA that will be attacked by frivolous registration holders that know they can game the system. We view this loss as theft to the industry.

I strongly urge you to reconsider the proposed Letter of Protest fee for the reasons I have stated. The USPTO should not penalize the people helping your department complete the monumental task of administering registrations. We are here to help. Help that will be effectively dismantled with the implementation of this fee. This is why I stand in categorical opposition to any fee administered. Please reconsider the initiative or open further communication with industry

participants to review such proposal in more attentive detail.

Sincerely,

Kashyap Patel Trademark Watch Dawgs Member

GINGER 5522713

DUH 5535385

THIS IS JUST GENIUS 5741096

REMATCH 5693289

IT'S A BEAUTIFUL DAY TO BE ALIVE 5658196

1970 5651855

HIPPIE VIBE 5613418

I ONLY MAKE BOYS 5576414

WE ALL HAVE OUR MOMENTS 5570168

DO GOOD BE KIND 5563924

TV DAD 5550878

TEQUILA KILLS 5545986

WAR 5544499

NEIGHBORHOOD 5505435

BE THE MAN 5489044

BIRD NERD 5417471

GREETINGS FROM 5381513

THE BEST KIND OF DAD 5313209

MEGALODON 5306714

GREATEST GUITARIST EVER 5287747

BUSY MOM 5250857

NOT TODAY 5247946

VOLLEYBALL LIFE 5180887

MOMMY TO BE 5133777

FOOTBALL MOM 4783661

BASEBALL MOM 4783660

SOFTBALL MOM 4783658

I LOVE MY BIG SISTER 4749476

I WORK HARD 4686987

I LOVE MY WIFE 4541673

WHAT'S YOUR SUPERPOWER? 4169154

NO SLEEP 3812057

ADULTING & SCREAMING 5553248

I'M THE BIG BROTHER 2166736

I'M THE BIG SISTER 2153621

WORKING HARD SO MY DOG CAN HAVE A GOOD LIFE 5534946

EVERYTHING OFFENDS ME 5555286 I WILL WIN 5542855 MISTAKES 5544220 DOGS 5843989