From: <u>Duy Truong</u>
To: <u>TM FR Notices</u>

**Subject:** Letter of Protest filling fee should not be implemented

**Date:** Monday, September 30, 2019 4:28:19 PM

## Dear USPTO,

I am a small business owner in the online retail space, upon starting my business, I reviewed the trademark process and guidelines provided on this website. On the USPTO.gov website the guidelines for filing trademarks are outlined in great detail. I initially felt confident that if I ever needed to trademark my business name, I understood what was involved and that the USPTO was diligent in ensuring only proper trademarks would be registered. However, after only being in business for a few weeks I quickly learned that what I read in the guidelines on the <a href="uspto.gov">uspto.gov</a> website were not at all what was actually occurring in the trademark world with regard to class 025 specifically.

I have seen over the years many parties file frivolous trademarks that do not represent the intent of what a trademark is. There are sellers trying to monopolize trendy widespread common use ornamental phrases.

I understand the USPTO wanting to include a filing fee for a LOP to prevent a large volume of letter of protests being submitted that take up the USPTO time and slow down approval process. However I am part of a group that believes in good trademarks to protect companies and business that have built a Brand and bodies of work. In this group, we look for frivolous trademarks to file LOP, especially when it seems obviously someone is trying to file a trademark for a common use ornamental phrase to corner the market as they would have legal rights to issue DMCA letters and or file lawsuit.

I am not a legal expert on any means, I am just a concerned business owner. I know the increased filing of LOP has been an issue for the USPTO, but it seems adding a fee to file a LOP may not be the appropriate solution but rather we need to look at denying this invalid trademarks from the beginning.

Below is just a short list of approved trademarks with registration numbers, most of them are commonuse single words phrases...

Trademarked Phrase	Registration Number
KPOP	5816344
WAR	5544499
Mistakes	5544220
I LOVE FLOWERS	5752444
GINGER	5522713
REMATCH	5693289
NEIGHBORHOOD	5505435
MERMAID	5650588

Please see into this and consider my thoughts. Thank you for your time.

-Duy Truong