

From: [Alison Donald](#)
To: [TM FR Notices](#); [Fee.Setting](#)
Subject: USPTO proposal to charge for filing Letters of Protest (LOPs).
Date: Monday, September 30, 2019 9:12:52 AM

To whom it may concern

I learn that the USPTO is considering levying a fee of US\$100-\$200 dollars to submit a Letter Of Protest (LOP). I understand that this may be in part due to the huge increase in the numbers of LOPs being submitted.

The fact of the matter is that LOPs would not be so necessary if a) only legitimate trademarks were being filed and b) the USPTO examining attorneys were fulfilling their duties.

It is very clear from the large amount of illegitimate TMs being applied for and even registered that some USPTO examining lawyers are quite frankly not doing their job.

Many of these trademarks are merely commonly used words or slogans. The TM applicant has not built a brand around the word / slogan and merely seeks to stifle competition and / or charge heavy licensing fees or use.

Some examples of these commonly used words or slogans which have gained a TM are:

DOGS 5843989

I LOVE MY WIFE 4541673

BIG HAIR DON'T CARE 5608267

If the USPTO needs to pay more staff to deal with LOPs then this should be charged to those who are filing TMs, with perhaps a portion of their application fee refundable if it did not attract an LOP. In addition action needs to be taken against those who file frivolous TMs and those who submit "Photoshop" mockups to support their application.

Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Yours faithfully

Alison Donald