

From: [Erin Mayhill](#)
To: [TM FR Notices](#)
Subject: Proposed Letter Of Protest Fee
Date: Monday, September 23, 2019 9:14:06 AM

To whom it may concern:

Regarding the proposed fee to file letters of protest, please understand that this is the one recourse available to small business owners to protect their interests against those that file frivolous trademarks. Since the USPTO is frequently allowing frivolous trademarks to be registered, the system is being abused and small business owners like myself are being bullied by the owners of these trademarks. Frequently, the owners of these trademarks claim ownership to these common words such as "mermaid" (5650588), "war" (5544499), and "Mistakes" (5544220) and then threaten small business owners such as myself if they attempt to use the word in any manner. My understanding is that there are USPTO rules in place to prevent this sort of abuse but that the system is failing to enforce those rules. Until there is an overhaul of the USPTO registration process, please do not remove the one recourse available to people like me. Instead, please consider putting the financial burden where it belongs - on the ones filing these frivolous trademarks. Thank you for your consideration.

Erin Mayhill