

From: [Vickie Sloderbeck](#)
To: [TM FR Notices](#)
Subject: Proposed Fee for Filing a Letter of Protest
Date: Sunday, September 22, 2019 6:48:32 PM

Good Afternoon:

In late August, 2019, I learned that your office is proposing to charge a \$100-\$200 fee so that someone can file a Letter of Protest for frivolous trademarks.

Somehow, this fee seems unfair because it would punish those of us who are trying to protect our businesses from those who file and often subsequently granted frivolous trademarks. Please realize that a fee would not be necessary if frivolous trademarks were not allowed to even be considered. However, if your office continues to allow common words to be trademarked (like DOGS—a word I had to change in 10,000 listings on Amazon), it only seems fair that they who file these request for trademarks should be the ones to pay the fee when someone rightfully protests their application.

I would ask that you please reconsider this fee and remove it from the cost of filing a letter of protest. If you pass this fee on to those of us who are trying to keep the English language free to use in our businesses, then you erect a barrier that would make it almost impossible to fight the insanity of those who are trying to establish a monopoly on our freedom of speech.

Respectfully,

Vickie Sloderbeck