

From: [Melissa Neiding](#)
To: [TM FR Notices](#)
Subject: Letter Of Protest Fee Changes
Date: Sunday, September 22, 2019 7:56:48 PM

To Whom It May Concern,

First I would like to thank the USPTO for all they do to provide patent and trademark services. It is a very involved task and highly appreciated by all!

While there is no doubt that some fee increases need to be made to balance the costs of trademarks and their respective issues, I was particularly concerned to see a proposed fee added to filing a Letter Of Protest. With so many more trademarks filed daily due to the increase of ecommerce a system of checks and balances is a necessity to insure that each trademark filer is truly filing a mark that stands for their brand and not just trademarking random words. The Letter Of Protest IS that system of checks and balances.

Charging a fee for filing a Letter Of Protest will prevent those who cannot afford the fee from providing evidence that a trademark filing is frivolous. A frivolous trademark filing costs far more in terms of time and resources than receiving and utilizing a Letter Of Protest does.

It should be noted that the proposed increase in the cost of filing for a trademark is approximately the same amount as the proposed fee for filing a Letter Of Protest. To truly increase revenue and lower costs shouldn't the cost for filing a trademark be higher? It would be reasonable to assume that a higher filing cost would be associated with fewer filings (including frivolous filings) and accordingly fewer Letters Of Protest.

In conclusion, I humbly request that the Letter Of Protest fee change be removed from the list of fee changes. Let this method of maintaining the quality of trademarks continue at no cost to the Letter Of Protest filer.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Melissa Neiding