

**From:** [Thomas Aldrich](#)  
**To:** [TM FR Notices](#)  
**Cc:** [Thomas Aldrich](#); [Thomas Aldrich](#)  
**Subject:** Fee Setting  
**Date:** Sunday, September 22, 2019 6:44:24 PM

---

To whom it may concern,

This letter is in opposition of the proposed fee to file a letter of protest (LOP) with the USPTO.

Currently without a letter of protest applicants are granted unbelievably broad rights without the appearance of a check if the mark is currently in widespread use already. The purpose of the USPTO is to ensure that consumers know the source of the goods that they are purchasing not to divide the English language into privately owned fiefdoms of common words that people cannot use without fear of ruinous lawsuits. The threat of these suits stifles innovation and limits consumer choice.

Only a government agency would object to people working with them for free. Rather than a \$100.00 fee people of file an accepted letter of protest should be able to collect a fee equal to 10% of the applicates trademark application fee.

The USPTO granted trademarks on Mommy to Be (serial number 5133777) and Softball Mom (4783658) with what can only be described as laughable specimens that clearly have never been produced and the phrases themselves are totally ornamental. How the examiners are unable to execute a simple search on the internet and find literally tens of thousands of examples of the use of these phrases in use on items across the range of the products these trademarks have applied for suggests that the examiners are either unable to perform the task at hand or are not taking it seriously.

I urge you to reject the proposed fee on Letters of Protest.

Thomas W Aldrich