

From: [Rhonda Watters](#)
To: [Fee.Setting](#); [TM FR Notices](#); [Cain, Catherine](#)
Subject: Proposed Fee for Letter of Protest
Date: Friday, September 27, 2019 6:57:00 PM

I am writing to protest the proposed \$100-200 fee for filing a letter of protest.

I have had to file letters of protest because many trademark applicants are attempting to trademark common words/phrases. These are not brands but sayings on shirts that in no way indicate a brand or source.

After they are granted their trademark they issue take downs on all the print on demand sites.

If I can find oodles of evidence within a few minutes on Amazon, Etsy, Redbubble, etc. that these words/phrases are in widespread use and are not a brand I don't understand why the examiner can't see that these should not be granted.

Granting these trademarks impacts me because then I have to take down my shirts with these words/phrases. Even worse is getting take downs and having my account closed on some of these sites because of the take downs.

I and many other small business owners can't afford to pay a fee to file a LOP as our margins are slim already.

Increase the cost of applying for a trademark so that the examiner can do a more comprehensive online search where in many of the cases they will find evidence of widespread use. Doing that they will see that it is a commonplace phrase and most definitely is not a brand and therefore should not be granted a trademark.

Sincerely,
Rhonda W.