

From: [Marel Stock](#)
To: [TM FR Notices](#)
Subject: Filing LOP fee protest email
Date: Sunday, September 22, 2019 6:35:44 PM

To whom it may concern -

I am a small business owner who makes and sells graphic tees. It did not take long for me to be contacted by other people that had been abusing the US Trademark system claiming they "owned" words that had been being used by hundreds of sellers before. Trademark was put in place to protect brands, not allow people to trademark words like "DOG" and then actively protect themselves against any competition of people putting the word "Dog" on products. It is abuse of the system and it kills small businesses like mine.

The recent recommendation to require a \$100 fee to file a Letter of Protest just enables the system abusers. It allows anyone with enough money to "own" a phrase that is ALREADY being used by hundreds of others and it silences the smaller businesses that are already using that phrase from saying it. Requiring LOP fees will only make the abuse of the system worse.

Please reconsider this for people like me that are just trying to make an honest living, who honor the trademark system and are sure to steer clear of standing trademarks. The abuse will only grow and it will leave people like me with too few words to use!

Thank you for your consideration!
Marel Stock