

From: [Laura Burke](#)
To: [Fee.Setting](#); [TM.FR Notices](#); [Cain, Catherine](#)
Subject: Public comment on proposed trademark fees
Date: Tuesday, September 24, 2019 2:45:01 PM

To whom it may concern:

As a small business owner in the online print-on-demand retail space, I am extremely concerned about a couple of things going on in the trademark application and approval process at USPTO.gov:

1) Frivolous trademarks are being approved by examining attorneys who have not followed the USPTO's own guidelines, such as verifying that the marks are not already in concurrent use by others or are purely ornamental. One example of this is the recently registered trademark for the word "Dogs," (Registration Number 5843989; Serial Number 88299285; Registration Date August 27, 2019; Goods and Services IC 025 US 022 039). I could list a lot more instances but I think the fact that this one slipped through should alone be enough to warrant an investigation of the process.

2) I am against the proposed fee of \$100-\$200 for an individual or business to file an LOP to oppose these frivolous trademarks. I understand that additional funds may be needed in order to handle all the applications and LOPs, but I would strongly suggest that these fees be absorbed by the individuals who APPLY for trademarks if these are indeed found to be frivolous, based on the USPTO's FOLLOWED guidelines.

I am asking that you 1) seriously reconsider to whom this fee is charged, and 2) that you take a look at the examining process to find out why these trademarks that violate your guidelines are being approved in the first place.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions about why I feel so strongly about this matter.

Thank you - from a very concerned small business owner,
Laura Burke
laura@snowbirdmarketers.com