

From: [Julie Guthrie](#)
To: [Fee.Setting](#); [TM.FR Notices](#); [Cain, Catherine](#)
Subject: Proposed Letter of Protest Filing Fee
Date: Monday, September 23, 2019 9:24:39 PM

Julie Guthrie
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September 23, 2019

Good Day:

I am writing to you today as a small business person whose livelihood depends on the use of verbiage and illustrations based on Class 025.

Many days I research and brainstorm to come up with original and fresh ideas to make products that customers would like. Part of my research process is checking for a trademark on the USPTO website. It astonishes me to see how many "common" words and phrases like "DOGS" for example are unavailable for everyone to use as there has been a trademark obtained.

I am not writing to you today to discuss the ridiculousness of some of the words that actually have a trademark granted to a particular business or individual. I am writing to give my feelings about that proposed fee that will be charged for a Letter of Protest for filed trademark applications.

The ability to protest what one disagrees with is basic to the American way. Filing a letter of protest is like someone voting that they do not agree. Where in this country does one get charged to vote?

As a business person, I can see that standpoint that to examine extra documents may cost more money in labor and etc. to log and review those submitted. Perhaps an overhaul of how a trademark is applied for and obtained is on order? Perhaps if there were consistent and reasonable standards by which a trademark was granted, people like myself would not have to file letters of protest.

In conclusion, I am publicly stating that I disagree with any fee related to protesting a trademark application and suggest that operations and standards in the USPTO be scrutinized for sensible ruling and efficiency.

Sincerely,

Julie Guthrie