September 30, 2019

To Whom This Concerns:

While I am certainly not one of the big players in the world of Print on Demand, I am hopeful that I can make it at least a part time income. There's a lot to learn along the way and one thing I give top priority to is to respect trademarks and copyrights of others. However, it has been my observation that even the most common of words and phrases are being copyrighted and it seems unfair. I was always under the impression that a copyright or trademark indicated something unique and proprietary to a company or small business. For those of us wanting to follow our ethics and also follow the laws in these matters, it is getting increasingly hard. Now I understand that the uspto will be charging $100 in order for any of us to protest a word or phrase that we feel is unfairly being registered and therefore unusable for our designs. This may not seem like a lot of money to a government office but as a small player in this field, it most certainly is. I would like to think I could exercise my right to protest something that seems frivolous or unfair and that it wouldn't be prohibitive due to this high fee. I hope you'll take this and everyone's letters to heart and make the right decision to eliminate this fee.

Sincerely,
Sharon Marburger