

From: [Stacy K. Mitchell](#)
To: [Fee.Setting](#); [TM FR Notices](#); [Cain, Catherine](#)
Cc: [Stacy K. Mitchell](#)
Subject: Proposed Letter of Protest Fees
Date: Thursday, August 29, 2019 9:31:58 PM

To whom it may concern,

It has come to my attention that there is a proposal to levy a fee for submitting evidence in a letter of protest of newly filed trademarks. While I can understand the offices need to make sure time is not spent sorting through unnecessary irrelevant files, I agree 100% that there is a cost to reviewing every submitted letter of protest.

However, if the barrier to registration of trademarks that provide merely ornamental evidence to a trademark application were enforced more thoroughly there would not be a need to review as many letter of protests.

I believe a **deterrent to filing frivolous marks** would be **far more effective** than to make it harder for people to assist the examining attorney by providing evidence in a protest.

A simple proposed solution would be to raise the fees for the Initial application that may deter people from attempting to file the frivolous mark in the first place. For example, if the average trademark receives 2 filed letters of protest I would propose keeping the LOP a free to file system and increase the cost of application by \$400 to offset the costs.

I would be happy to provide more feedback regarding this concerning issue that may raise the likelihood of trademark abuse.

Thank you for taking your valuable time to read this email, and your consideration.

Sincerely,
Stacy Mitchell

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