Please do not take the misguided action to begin charging a $100 - $200 fee for filing a Letter of Protest.

As you are aware, the Trademark process is being abused on a daily basis.

Not only are people and businesses filing applications to trademark words and phrases which are purely ornamental and commonly used, but many of these frivolous trademarks are being approved.

If it were not for the work of people filing letters of protest, more frivolous trademarks would be granted.

The people / business being approved for these frivolous or purely ornamental trademarked words and phrases can, and do routinely, use their new trademarks to bully small businesses and individuals into removing their products from sale. This abuse of trademarks is thereby effectively removing their competition from the market.

It has truly gotten to the point where sellers cannot list t-shirts and other products with words without the constant fear of receiving a take-down notice or DMCA strike on their marketplace accounts.

We are not causing brand confusion or infringing on legitimate intellectual rights of anyone when we make a shirt with the word "dogs" on it, however, now we can have our businesses ruined overnight by the approval of such a trademark.

The solution to your increased workload and large numbers of LOPs is to properly apply the existing rules and guidelines in the trademark application process. If applicants knew that these frivolous trademark applications would be denied, maybe they would be less willing to gamble hundreds of dollars with filing fraudulent claims and edited product photos.

Examiners can easily find instances of fake specimens in applications and searches resulting in hundreds of pages showing existing products using the exact same phrases and words as the applicant's requested trademark. These frivolous trademarks should be denied by your office without the need for a LOP.

I am attaching a list of clearly frivolous and purely ornamental trademarks which have been approved by your office. I assure you, there are thousands more.

ALL STAR
ALWAYS LATE BUT WORTH THE WAIT
BE BRAVE
BE COOL!
BE SWEET
BECAUSE I CAN
BELIEVE IT!
BEST FRIENDS
BESTIES
BEYOUTIFUL
BYE FELICIA!
CAN'T STOP WON'T STOP
CARPE DIEM
DANCE LIKE NO ONE'S WATCHING!
DEATH BEFORE DISHONOR
DOGS
DON'T QUIT
DON'T STOP ME NOW!
ENJOY LIFE.
ENJOY TODAY
EXHALE
FIGHT LIKE A GIRL
FOLLOW YOUR HEART
FREE HUGS
GIRLPOWER
GO FOR IT
GOOD VIBES
HAVE A HAPPY
HELLO GORGEOUS
HOT STUFF
HUSTLE HARDER
I AM ENOUGH
I SEE YOU
I TRUST YOU
INHALE
IT'S ALL GOOD
JUST BE NICE
JUST BREATHE
KISS MY SOUTHERN SASS
LET IT BE
LIFE IS BEAUTIFUL
LIFE IS GOOD
LIVE LAUGH LOVE
LIVE LOVE LAUGH
LIVING ON A PRAYER
LOVE NEVER DIES
MAKE IT HAPPEN
NAMASLAY
NEVER GIVE UP
NEVER QUIT
NO REGRETS
PERFECTLY IMPERFECT
RESTING BRUNCH FACE
RIDE OR DIE
SASSHOLE
SEE THE GOOD
SEIZE THE DAY
SHE BELIEVED SHE COULD SO SHE DID
SLAY
SLAYCATION
SQUAD GOALS
STAND TALL
STAY FOCUSED
STAY STRONG
STAY WILD!
THE FUTURE IS FEMALE
THIS GIRL CAN
UNBREAKABLE
UNSTOPPABLE
VINTAGE SOUL
WISH UPON A STAR
WISHFUL THINKING
YOU ARE AMAZING
YOU ARE BEAUTIFUL
YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE
YOU MATTER
YOU'RE ENOUGH

Without the ability to freely challenge frivolous trademarks through a LOP, what other recourse is available to concerned individuals with businesses to protect? Please do not add a fee for submitting a Letter of Protest. The result will be more frivolous trademarks being approved and more power to "trademark bullies" to ruin marketplace competition and eliminate fairness among small businesses.

Regards,
LG Spencer