

## **RfQ: USPTO Response** Expert Opinion Sought

礼x道 LexDAO L.€XĐ¥®

A highly competent authority with expertise in cryptographic systems and technical computing is sought as part of response to USPTO trademark refusal<sup>1</sup>. Whilst there was a unilateral mistake on the applicant's side (Delaware LLC whose owner is member of the Wyoming unincorprated non-profit assoc dba LexDAO) this is severed from the scope of work. Resolution hinges on yet to be negotiated sale/license-back of the IP resulting in either LexDAO becoming a Wyoming DUNA<sup>2</sup> with standing to be co-applicant or else a promissory estoppel with mandatory undertakings [TBA].

**Scope of Work:** The refusal on grounds of being merely descriptive can be refuted on 5 arms. In order of preferred outcome (not necessarily chosen):

- 1. resubmission under 2(f) as a collective mark uniquely identifying members of the DUNA. We demur on the majority of the issues as the display name @drllau | LexDAO is only viewed within SNS. The mistake of USPTO being it reviewed public websites and not the gated communities.
- 2. Refute as their TMEM³ being inconsistent with TRIPs (Paris⁴) or their technical system being insufficiently sophisticated to understand nuances.
- 3. A technical exposition on cryptoanarchist subculture, history of lex/yacc and LEX token, russian non-serif fonts, and stenographic bots (Lexý).
- 4. Rebut on grounds that trademark is suggestive rather than descriptive.
- 5. Rebut on grounds of organisational semiotic cf leXpunk Army ethos.

Quote for item 3 only are sought with 10-20 additional specimens provided [TBD] in conjunction with 1, 4 and 5 (arising from a crowd-sourcing activity in May), the primary grounds being that USPTO erred on several matters and/or their TMEM needs to be updated as per caselaw BAYC<sup>5</sup>. Absolute timeframe is submission due 6 June but the RfQ work is required earlier.

- 1 US Trademark Application Serial No. 97828729. [link] but annotated file has more rebuttal points in red only
- 2 Wyoming §17-32-108 (b)ii "Capacity to assert and defend; standing" based on germane criteria [link]
- 3 USPTO (2023) Trade Mark Examination Manual distinctiveness under 2(f) eg foreign translation
- 4 WIPO (2010) Technical & Procedural Aspects Relating to the Registration of Certification & Collective Marks [link]
- 5 Yaga Labs v. Ripps, U.S. District Court for the Central District of California, No. 2:22-cv-04355 [link]