To: Trayvonta Bonsu(tbonsu94@yahoo.com)

Subject: U.S. Trademark Application Serial No. 97120506 - MM \$10,000 \$10,000

Sent: August 25, 2022 07:46:48 AM EDT

Sent As: tmng.notices@uspto.gov

Attachments

United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Office Action (Official Letter) About Applicant's Trademark Application

U.S. Application Serial No. 97120506

Mark: MM \$10,000 \$10,000

Correspondence Address: TRAYVONTA BONSU 1170 TRIPOLI ST. APT. 7 RIVERSIDE CA 92507 UNITED STATES

Applicant: Trayvonta Bonsu

Reference/Docket No. N/A

Correspondence Email Address: tbonsu94@yahoo.com

NONFINAL OFFICE ACTION

The USPTO must receive applicant's response to this letter within <u>six months</u> of the issue date below or the application will be <u>abandoned</u>. Respond using the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS). A link to the appropriate TEAS response form appears at the end of this Office action.

Issue date: August 25, 2022

The referenced application has been reviewed by the assigned trademark examining attorney. Applicant must respond timely and completely to the issues below. 15 U.S.C. §1062(b); 37 C.F.R. §§2.62(a), 2.65(a); TMEP §§711, 718.03.

SEARCH OF USPTO DATABASE OF MARKS

The trademark examining attorney has searched the USPTO database of registered and pending marks and has found no conflicting marks that would bar registration under Trademark Act Section 2(d). 15 U.S.C. §1052(d); TMEP §704.02.

SUMMARY OF ISSUES:

- Clarification of Applicant's Entity Type Required
- Amended Description of Mark Required
- Advisory: Possible Ornamental Refusal

CLARIFICATION OF APPLICANT'S ENTITY TYPE REQUIRED

The name of an individual person appears in the section of the application intended for the trademark owner's name; however, the legal entity is set forth as a limited liability company. Applicant must clarify this inconsistency. *See* 37 C.F.R. §§2.32(a)(2), (a)(3)(i)-(ii), 2.61(b); TMEP §803.02(a).

If applicant is an individual, applicant should simply request that the legal entity be amended to "individual" and must indicate his/her country of citizenship for the record. 37 C.F.R. §2.32(a)(3)(i); TMEP §803.03(a). Alternatively, if applicant is a limited liability company, applicant must provide the correct name of the limited liability company and the U.S. state or foreign country of incorporation or organization. 37 C.F.R. §2.32(a)(3)(ii); TMEP §803.03(h).

If, in response to the above request, applicant provides information indicating that it is not the owner of the mark, registration may be refused because the application was void as filed. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.71(d); TMEP §§803.06, 1201.02(b). An application must be filed by the party who owns or is entitled to use the mark as of the application filing date. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.71(d); TMEP §1201.02(b).

AMENDED DESCRIPTION OF MARK REQUIRED

First, applicant must submit an amended description of the mark because the current one is incomplete and does not describe all the significant aspects of the mark. 37 C.F.R. §2.37; see TMEP §§808.01, 808.02. Descriptions must be accurate and identify all the literal and design elements in the mark. See 37 C.F.R. §2.37; TMEP §§808 et seq. In this case, the description is incomplete because it does not reference the cash or the puddle of goo that appears in the drawing.

Second, applicant must submit an amended description of the mark because the current one uses broad, vague language that does not accurately describe the mark. 37 C.F.R. §2.37; see TMEP §§808.01, 808.02. In this case, the description is vague because it is not clear that the chain necklace has a circular pendant on which the letters "MM" appears.

Third, aApplicant must delete from the description any text that does not reference things appearing in the mark, such as interpretation, assessment, or analysis of the mark elements, or indications of how the mark is or is not used or intended to be used. A description must identify **only** the literal and design elements shown in the drawing. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.37; TMEP §808.02. In this case, applicant must delete from the description that the mark is intended to be used as an animated character and the character's name.

The following description is suggested, if accurate:

The mark consists of a humanoid monster with goo dripping down its body that has two eyes and is wearing athletic shoes, a beanie, a set of grills in its smiling mouth, and a chain necklace around its neck with the letters "MM" on a circular pendant on the chain. The monster is standing in a puddle of goo and has a cigar behind one ear with smoke rising from the cigar. The monster is holding a wad of cash in its right hand. There is a wad of cash labeled "\$10,000" coming out of the right side of the monster's body as if it had a side pocket on its body. There is a wad of cash labeled "\$10,000" coming out of the left side of the monster's body as if it had a side pocket on its body. Four cash bills float in the air around the monster.

ADVISORY: POSSIBLE ORNAMENTAL REFUSAL

Applicant is advised that, upon consideration of an allegation of use, registration may be refused on the ground that the applied-for mark as used on the specimen of record is merely a decorative or ornamental feature of the goods and, thus, does not function as a trademark to indicate the source of applicant's goods and to identify and distinguish them from others. Trademark Act Sections 1, 2, and 45, 15 U.S.C. §§1051-1052, 1127; see In re David Crystal, Inc., 296 F.2d 771, 773, 132 USPQ 1, 2 (C.C.P.A. 1961); In re Villeroy & Boch S.A.R.L., 5 USPQ2d 1451, 1454-55 (TTAB 1987); TMEP §§904.07(b), 1202.03 et seq.

The following factors are considered when determining whether the public would perceive the applied-for mark as a trademark or merely as a decorative or ornamental feature: the commercial impression made by the mark on the specimen, any prior registrations of the same mark for other goods, promotion of the applied-for mark as a trademark, and the practices of the relevant trade. *See In re Todd Co.*, 290 F.2d 597, 599-600, 129 USPQ 408, 409-10 (C.C.P.A. 1961); *In re Dimitri's Inc.*, 9 USPQ2d 1666, 1668 (TTAB 1988); *In re Paramount Pictures Corp.*, 213 USPQ 1111, 1115 (TTAB 1982); *In re Jockey Int'l, Inc.*, 192 USPQ 579, 581-83 (TTAB 1976); TMEP §§1202.03 *et seq.* For more information, see the Ornamental Refusal webpage.

TRADEMARK COUNSEL ADVISORY

Because of the legal technicalities and strict deadlines of the trademark application process, applicant is encouraged to hire a private attorney who specializes in trademark matters to assist in this process. The assigned trademark examining attorney can provide only limited assistance explaining the content of an Office action and the application process. USPTO staff cannot provide legal advice or statements about an applicant's legal rights. TMEP §§705.02, 709.06. See Hiring a U.S.-licensed trademark attorney for more information.

RESPONSE GUIDELINES

For this application to proceed, applicant must explicitly address each requirement in this Office action. For a refusal, applicant may provide written arguments and evidence against the refusal, and may have other response options if specified above. For a requirement, applicant should set forth the changes or statements. Please see "Responding to Office Actions" and the informational video "Response to Office".

Action" for more information and tips on responding.

Please call or email the assigned trademark examining attorney with questions about this Office action. Although an examining attorney cannot provide legal advice, the examining attorney can provide additional explanation about the requirements in this Office action. *See* TMEP §§705.02, 709.06.

The USPTO does not accept emails as responses to Office actions; however, emails can be used for informal communications and are included in the application record. *See* 37 C.F.R. §§2.62(c), 2.191; TMEP §§304.01-.02, 709.04-.05.

How to respond. Click to file a response to this nonfinal Office action.

/Pauline Ha/
Pauline Ha
Trademark Examining Attorney
Law Office 115
(571) 272-5005
pauline.ha@uspto.gov

RESPONSE GUIDANCE

- Missing the response deadline to this letter will cause the application to <u>abandon</u>. The response must be received by the USPTO before midnight **Eastern Time** of the last day of the response period. TEAS maintenance or <u>unforeseen circumstances</u> could affect an applicant's ability to timely respond.
- Responses signed by an unauthorized party are not accepted and can cause the application to abandon. If applicant does not have an attorney, the response must be signed by the individual applicant, all joint applicants, or someone with legal authority to bind a juristic applicant. If applicant has an attorney, the response must be signed by the attorney.
- If needed, **find contact information for the supervisor** of the office or unit listed in the signature block.

United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)

USPTO OFFICIAL NOTICE

Office Action (Official Letter) has issued on August 25, 2022 for U.S. Trademark Application Serial No. 97120506

A USPTO examining attorney has reviewed your trademark application and issued an Office action. You must respond to this Office action in order to avoid your application abandoning. Follow the steps below.

- (1) Read the Office action. This email is NOT the Office action.
- (2) **Respond to the Office action by the deadline** using the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS). Your response must be received by the USPTO on or before 11:59 p.m. **Eastern Time** of the last day of the response period. Otherwise, your application will be <u>abandoned</u>. See the Office action itself regarding how to respond.
- (3) **Direct general questions** about using USPTO electronic forms, the USPTO <u>website</u>, the application process, the status of your application, and whether there are outstanding deadlines to the <u>Trademark Assistance Center (TAC)</u>.

After reading the Office action, address any question(s) regarding the specific content to the USPTO examining attorney identified in the Office action.

GENERAL GUIDANCE

- <u>Check the status</u> of your application periodically in the <u>Trademark Status & Document Retrieval (TSDR)</u> database to avoid missing critical deadlines.
- <u>Update your correspondence email address</u> to ensure you receive important USPTO notices about your application.
- Beware of trademark-related scams. Protect yourself from people and companies that may try to take financial advantage of you. Private companies may call you and pretend to be the USPTO or may send you communications that resemble official USPTO documents to trick you. We will never request your credit card number or social security number over the phone. And all official USPTO correspondence will only be emailed from the domain "@uspto.gov." Verify the correspondence originated from us by using your Serial Number in our database, TSDR, to confirm that it appears under the "Documents" tab, or contact the Trademark Assistance Center.

• Hiring a U.S.-licensed attorney. If you do not have an attorney and are not required to have one under the trademark rules, we encourage you to hire a U.S.-licensed attorney specializing in trademark law to help guide you through the registration process. The USPTO examining attorney is not your attorney and cannot give you legal advice, but rather works for and represents the USPTO in trademark matters.