

To: Allison Johnson(allison@ajiplaw.com)
Subject: U.S. Trademark Application Serial No. 97119073 - SECONDHAND HOUNDS
- 270-001UST1
Sent: August 25, 2022 08:56:26 PM EDT
Sent As: tmng.notices@uspto.gov

Attachments

[screenshot-www-merriam-webster-com-dictionary-hound-16614752682041](#)

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

U.S. Application Serial No. 97119073

Mark: SECONDHAND HOUNDS

Correspondence Address:

ALLISON JOHNSON
ALLISON JOHNSON, P.A.
6016 LOGAN AVE. S.
MINNEAPOLIS MN 55419 UNITED STATES

Applicant: Secondhand Hounds, PC

Reference/Docket No. 270-001UST1

Correspondence Email Address: allison@ajiplaw.com

NONFINAL OFFICE ACTION

The USPTO must receive applicant's response to this letter within six months of the issue date below or the application will be [abandoned](#). 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 issue(s) 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:

- Disclaimer Requirement

DISCLAIMER REQUIREMENT

Applicant must disclaim the wording “HOUNDS” because it is merely descriptive of a characteristic of applicant’s services. *See* 15 U.S.C. §1052(e)(1); *DuoProSS Meditech Corp. v. Inviro Med. Devices, Ltd.*, 695 F.3d 1247, 1251, 103 USPQ2d 1753, 1755 (Fed. Cir. 2012); TMEP §§1213, 1213.03(a).

The attached evidence from the Merriam-Webster Dictionary shows this wording means "dog". *See* attached internet evidence. Thus, the wording merely describes applicant’s services because applicant provides veterinary and animal rescue services for dogs.

Applicant may respond to this issue by submitting a disclaimer in the following format:

No claim is made to the exclusive right to use “HOUNDS” apart from the mark as shown.

For an overview of disclaimers and instructions on how to provide one using the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS), see the [Disclaimer webpage](#).

RESPONSE GUIDELINES

Please call or email the assigned trademark examining attorney to resolve the issues in this Office action. Although the USPTO does not accept emails as responses to Office actions, communication by phone or email is permissible to agree to proposed amendments to the application that will immediately place the application in condition for publication, registration, or suspension. *See* 37 C.F.R. §2.62(c); TMEP §707.

How to respond. [Click to file a response to this nonfinal Office action.](#)

/Rio Toplak/
Rio Toplak
Trademark Examining Attorney
Law Office 127
(571) 272-6572
rio.toplak@uspto.gov

RESPONSE GUIDANCE

- **Missing the response deadline to this letter will cause the application to [abandon](#).** The response must be received by the USPTO before midnight **Eastern Time** of the last day of the response period. TEAS maintenance or [unforeseen circumstances](#) 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.



Dictionary

Thesaurus

hound



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Definition

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verb

Synonyms

Synonym Chooser

Example Sentences

Word History

Phrases Containing

Entries Near

Comments

Cite this Entry

verb

Synonyms

hound

1 of 2

noun

'haʊnd

1 **a** : DOG

b : a dog of any of numerous hunting breeds including both scent **hounds** (such as the bloodhound and beagle) and sight hounds (such as the greyhound and Afghan hound)

2 : a mean or despicable person

3 : DOGFISH

4 : a person who pursues like a hound
especially : one who avidly seeks or collects something

| autograph *hounds*

1 **a** : DOG

b : a dog of any of numerous hunting breeds including both scent **hounds** (such as the bloodhound and beagle) and sight hounds (such as the greyhound and Afghan hound)



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- hound
- 2 : a mean or despicable person
- 3 : DOGFISH
- 4 : a person who pursues like a hound
- especially : one who avidly seeks or collects something
- autograph hounds

hound 2 of 2 verb

hounded; hounding; hounds

transitive verb

- 1 : to pursue with or as if with hounds
- 2 : to drive or affect by persistent harassing

hounder noun

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TEST YOUR VOCABULARY

Synonyms

Noun

canine	dog	doggy
doggie	pooch	tyke
tike		

Verb

bird-dog	chase	course
dog	follow	pursue
run	shadow	tag
tail	trace	track
trail		

[See all Synonyms & Antonyms in Thesaurus >](#)

Choose the Right Synonym for *hound*

BAIT, **BADGER**, **HECKLE**, **HECTOR**, **CHIVY**, **HOUND** mean to harass by efforts to break down.

BAIT implies wanton cruelty or delight in persecuting a helpless victim.

baited the chained dog

Words Named After People



Namesake of the *leotard*, Jules Léotard had what profession?

Acrobat

Surgeon

Firefighter

Judge



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BADGER implies pestering so as to drive a person to confusion or frenzy.

| *badgered* her father for a car

HECKLE implies persistent annoying or belligerent interruptions of a speaker.

| drunks *heckled* the stand-up comic

HECTOR carries an implication of bullying and domineering.

| football players *hector*ed by their coach

CHIVY suggests persecution by teasing or nagging.

| *chivied* the new student mercilessly

HOUND implies unrelenting pursuit and harassing.

| *hounded* by creditors

Example Sentences

Noun

| in the yard an old *hound* greeted us with a single bark

| a camera *hound* even before the baby arrived, he's now become obsessive

Verb

[See More](#) ▾

Recent Examples on the Web

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Noun

One patron wore red and yellow suspenders; another brought a Basset *hound* in a hot dog costume.

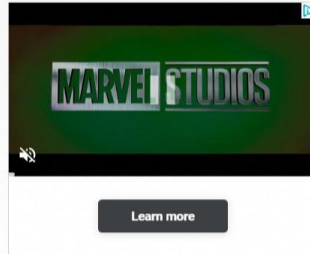
– Nicole Kagan, *Los Angeles Times*, 20 July 2022

The fifth installment of the Air Buddies franchise follows the Buddies on a quest to stop Warwick the Warlock from unleashing the no-good *hound* ghosts in their town.

– Cameron Jenkins, *Good Housekeeping*, 19 July 2022

[See More](#) ▾

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'hound.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors. [Send us feedback](#).



Word History

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Etymology

Noun

Middle English, from Old English *hund*; akin to Old High German *hunt* dog, Latin *canis*, Greek *kyōn*

First Known Use

Noun

before the 12th century, in the meaning defined at [sense 1a](#)

Verb

1528, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Time Traveler

The first known use of *hound* was before the 12th century

[See more words from the same century](#)

Phrases Containing *hound*

[Afghan hound](#)

[hound's-tongue](#)

[basset hound](#)

[lyam-hound](#)

[Ibizan hound](#)


[hound's-tooth](#)

[scent hound](#)

[rock hound](#)

[smooth hound](#)

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Dictionary Entries Near *hound*

[hounce](#)

hound

[hound's-tongue](#)

[See More Nearby Entries >](#)

Comments

Seen & Heard



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TJWright · 14 March, 2014

...

Are you guys sure hund came from Old English? because hundr meant dog in old Norse and from my resources, dogga was the English word for dog

Reply · 👍 4 · 🗨️ · Share



MargoFrantz · 14 August, 2011

...

God is sometimes referred to as the "hound of heaven" I just returned from a missions trip to Ecuador. I was "hounded" there by God who proceeded to bless my socks off!

Reply · 👍 3 · 🗨️ · Share

👤 1 reply



JennyDyer · 28 April, 2011

...

I like to check meaning when I'm not sure of it.
"They are being hounded by defenders".

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Cite this Entry

Style

MLA ▾

"Hound." Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary. Merriam-Webster. <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/hound>

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hound. *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/hound>. Accessed 25 Aug. 2022.

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Buying Guide

Looking to pamper your pet? The Britannica Reviews team has reviewed the [Diggs Revol Dog Crate](#).

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hound

1 of 2 **noun**

'haʊnd 🔊

: a dog with drooping ears that is used in hunting and follows game by the sense of smell

hound

2 of 2 **verb**

hounded; hounding

: to hunt, chase, or annoy without ceasing

"From now on they're gonna be *hounding* you for an autograph."

— Jack Gantos, *Joey Pigza Loses Control*

More from Merriam-Webster on *hound*

Nglish: [Translation of *hound* for Spanish Speakers](#)

Britannica.com: [Encyclopedia article about *hound*](#)

Last Updated: 22 Aug 2022

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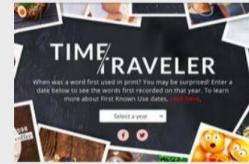
'Dunderhead' and Other
'Nicer' Ways to Say
Stupid



10 Words from Place
Names
Bibbi, barker, and



'Pride': The Word That
Went From Vice to
Strength



When Were Words First
Used?
Look us up or let us find out

As illustrated by some very smart pups

Birmingham, Bourbon, and badminton were places first

Do you take pride in Pride?

Look up any year to find out

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WORD GAMES



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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. 97119073

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 **[abandoned](#)**. See the Office action itself regarding how to respond.
- (3) **Direct general questions** about using USPTO electronic forms, the USPTO **[website](#)**, the application process, the status of your application, and whether there are outstanding deadlines to the **[Trademark Assistance Center \(TAC\)](#)**.

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

- **[Check the status](#) of your application periodically** in the **[Trademark Status & Document Retrieval \(TSDR\)](#)** database to avoid missing critical deadlines.
- **[Update your correspondence email address](#)** 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.

User: Rio Toplak

Statistics for Case 97119073						
#	Search	Total Marks	Dead Marks	Live Viewed Docs	Live Viewed Images	Status/Search Duration
1	97119073	1	0	1	1	0:00
2	*{"zsc"}{v1:2}{ckqx"1:2}{v1:2}{n"1:2}d*[bi,ti] not dead[ld]	2132	0	0	0	0:01
3	ha{"n"1:2}d*[bi,ti] not dead[ld]	7024	0	0	0	0:01
4	*h{"ou"1:2}{n"1:2}d*[bi,ti] not dead[ld]	19965	0	0	0	0:01
5	2 and 3 and 4	0	0	0	0	0:01
6	*ha{"n"1:2}d*[bi,ti] not dead[ld]	7799	0	0	0	0:00
7	2 and 6 and 4	1	0	1	1	0:01
8	2 and (6 4)	46	0	46	46	0:01
9	6 and 4	81	0	81	81	0:01
10	2 and ("044" "045")	1261	0	0	0	0:01
11	2 and ("044" "045")[cc]	1074	0	0	0	0:01
12	2 and ("044" "045" "042" "035" "041" a b 20 0)[ic]	853	0	853	853	0:01
13	6 and ("044" "045")[cc]	2890	0	0	0	0:01
14	6 and ("044" "045" "042" "035" "041" a b 20 0)[ic]	2113	0	0	0	0:01
15	6 and ("044" "045" "042" "035" a b 200)[ic]	1554	0	0	0	0:01
16	6 and ("044" "045" "042" a b 200)[ic]	768	0	746	746	0:01
17	*hound*[bi,ti] not dead[ld]	712	0	712	712	0:01
18	*{"zsc"}{v1:2}{ckqx"1:2}{v1:2}{n"1:2}{d"1:2}{v0:2}{h"1:2}{v1:2}{n"1:2}d*[bi,ti] not dead[ld]	16	0	16	16	0:01
19	(Secondhand and Hounds)[on]	2	1	1	1	0:00

Session started 08/25/2022 8:24 pm

Session ended 08/25/2022 8:49 pm

Total search duration 16.00

Session duration 25 minutes 40 seconds

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