

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Calvin Broadus
Serial No.: 97158553
Mark: **SNOOP DOGGS**
Filed: Dec. 06, 2021
Our Ref.: SDDG 2114720

PETITION TO THE DIRECTOR

Applicant, Calvin Broadus, a U.S. citizen and owner of the above referenced trademark application, seeks waiver of the requirement to disclose his domicile address. Applicant is petitioning the Director in an extraordinary situation, when justice requires and no other party is injured thereby, to request a suspension or waiver of any requirement of the rules not being a requirement of the Act of 1946 (37 C.F.R. §2.146 (a)(5)).

Under the Examination Guide 4-19 (Revised), the USPTO has stated that the Trademark Act requires that the “application shall include specification of the Applicant’s domicile and citizenship.” The USPTO has implemented a new U.S. counsel rule where domicile dictates whether an Applicant or Registrant is required to have a U.S. attorney. Applicant is a citizen of the U.S. Further, Applicant is represented by U.S. counsel and submits that this is adequate for purposes of this rule. If the rule did not allow for an exception in situations such as Applicant’s, the rule would be going too far by requiring Applicant to provide the specific residence address to comply with this rule. In fact, as discussed further below, if the rule did not allow for an exception in situations such as Applicant’s, it would expose Applicant to exceptional risk to the security and safety of himself and his family. Applicant therefore requests waiver of the rule.

According to Wikipedia (see attached), Applicant is a famous American rapper, singer, songwriter, producer, media personality, entrepreneur, and actor. His public visibility attracts an enormous interest from media and paparazzi. That is why disclosing publicly his personal residence to comply with the Domicile Address requirement could pose an exceptional risk to the security and safety of himself and his family.

Applicant is noting this because, even though the USPTO now shields the domicile address field, because of the security and vulnerability of databases, it is impossible for the USPTO to guarantee trademark owners that their domicile street address will remain permanently private. The U.S. Trademark Act does not require an individual to risk his or her life in order to obtain a trademark registration in his or her personal name. For this reason, Applicant is filing this Petition.

The PTO has recently decided that in situations such as this one, an exception is indeed appropriate and Applicant will not need to provide its domicile street address. In particular, the policy indicates that in order for the Director to waive Trademark Rule 2.189, petitioner must provide a statement specifying both the state and country where the owner is domiciled, verified by an affidavit or declaration under Trademark Rule 2.20 37 C.F.R. §2.20; *see* 37 C.F.R. §§2.20(o), 2.146(c), 2.189; TMEP §1705.03. Applicant provided this information in the

application filed on December 6, 2021. The application was verified by a declaration signed by Applicant. Applicant submits that this is adequate for the PTO's purposes here.

Thus, because of these exceptional circumstances outlined above, Applicant's domicile address should not be required and, instead, Applicant should be permitted to submit the address provided below for correspondence from the PTO. Applicant submits that the above constitutes an extraordinary situation sufficient to keep the domicile address confidential and requests that correspondence should be sent to the address included with the application filed on December 6, 2021:

1880 Century Park East, Suite 200

Los Angeles, CA 90067

The listed mailing address is not Applicant's domicile address. Applicant is petitioning the Director in an extraordinary situation, when justice requires and no other party is injured thereby, to request a suspension or waiver of any requirement of the rules not being a requirement of the Act of 1946 (37 C.F.R. §2.146 (a)(5)).