DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Native American Tribal Insignia Database

ACTION: Proposed collection; comment request.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)), is proposing an extension of an existing information collection; the Native American Tribal Insignia Database.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before February 3, 2017.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods:
- Email: InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include “0651–0048 comment” in the subject line of the message.
- Mail: Marcie Lovett, Records Management Division Director, Office of the Chief Information Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313–1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Catherine Cain, Attorney Advisor, Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Examination Policy, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1451, Alexandria, VA 22313–1451; by telephone at 571–272–8946; or by email to Catherine.Cain@uspto.gov.

Additional information about this collection is also available at http://www.reginfo.gov under “Information Collection Review.”

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The Trademark Law Treaty Implementation Act of 1998 (Pub. L. 105–330, 302, 112 Stat. 3071) required the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to study issues surrounding the protection of the official insignia of federally and state-recognized Native American tribes under trademark law. The USPTO conducted the study and presented a report to the House and Senate Judiciary Committees on November 30, 1999. One of the recommendations made in the report was that the USPTO create and maintain an accurate and comprehensive database containing the official insignia of all federally and state-recognized Native American tribes. In accordance with this recommendation, the Senate Committee on Appropriations directed the USPTO to create this database.

The USPTO database of official tribal insignias provides evidence of what a federally or state-recognized Native American tribe considers to be its official insignia. The database thereby assists trademark examining attorneys in their examination of applications for trademark registration by serving as a reference for determining the registrability of a mark that may falsely suggest a connection to the official insignia of a Native American tribe. The database is also available to the public on the USPTO Web site at http://www.uspto.gov.

Tribes are not required to request that their official insignia be included in the database. The entry of an official insignia into the database does not confer any rights to the tribe that submitted the insignia, and entry is not the legal equivalent of registering the insignia as a trademark under 15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq. The inclusion of an official tribal insignia in the database does not carry any of the benefits of federal trademark registration, and is not a determination as to whether a particular insignia would be refused registration as a trademark pursuant to 15 U.S.C. 1051 et seq.

Requests from federally recognized tribes to enter an official insignia into the database must be submitted in writing and include: (1) A depiction of the insignia, including the name of the tribe and the address for correspondence; (2) a copy of the tribal resolution adopting the insignia in question as the official insignia of the tribe; and (3) a statement, signed by an official with authority to bind the tribe, confirming that the insignia included with the request is identical to the official insignia adopted by the tribal resolution.

Requests from state-recognized tribes must also be in writing and include each of the three items described above that are submitted by federally recognized tribes. Additionally, requests from state-recognized tribes must include either: (a) A document issued by a state official that evidences the state’s determination that the entity is a Native American tribe; or (b) a citation to a state statute designating the entity as a Native American tribe.

The USPTO enters insignia that have been properly submitted by federally or state-recognized Native American tribes into the database and does not investigate whether the insignia is actually the official insignia of the tribe making the request. This collection includes the information needed by the USPTO to enter an official insignia for a federally or state-recognized Native American tribe into a database of such insignia. No forms are associated with this collection.

II. Method of Collection

By mail, facsimile, or hand delivery to the USPTO.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651–0048.
Form Number(s): None.
Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.
Affected Public: Tribal governments.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 4 responses per year.
Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that a federally or state-recognized Native American tribe will require an average of 45 minutes (0.75 hours) to complete a request to record an official insignia, including time to prepare the appropriate documents and submit the completed request to the USPTO.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 3 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Cost Burden: $256.50. The USPTO expects that the information in this collection will be prepared by both paraprofessionals and administrative staff. The estimated rate of $85.50 per hour used in this submission is an average of the paraprofessional rate of $141 per hour and the administrative rate of $30 per hour. Therefore, the USPTO estimates that the respondent cost burden for this collection will be approximately $256.50 per year.
Supplemental Information:
The Department of the Air Force intends to grant the exclusive patent license agreement to Protective Innovations, LLC, a corporation of the State of Delaware.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

Notice of Intent To Grant an Exclusive Patent License

AGENCY: Air Force Materiel Command.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Bayh-Dole Act and implementing regulations, the Department of the Air Force hereby gives notice of its intent to grant an exclusive patent license agreement to Protective Innovations, LLC, a corporation of the State of Delaware.

DATES: Written objections must be filed no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the date of publication of this Notice.

ADDRESSES: Submit written objections to the Air Force Materiel Command Law Office, AFMCLO/JAZ, 2240 B Street, Room 260, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433–7109; Facsimile: (937) 255–3733; or Email: afmclo.jaz.tech@us.af.mil. Include Docket No. AFD–1509 in the subject line of the message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Air Force Materiel Command Law Office, AFMCLO/JAZ, 2240 B Street, Rm. 260, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433–7109; Facsimile: (937) 255–3733; Email: afmclo.jaz.tech@us.af.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of the Air Force intends to grant the exclusive patent license agreement for the invention described in:


The Department of the Air Force grants the prospective license unless a timely objection is received that sufficiently shows the grant of the license would be inconsistent with the Bayh-Dole Act or implementing regulations. A competing application for a patent license agreement, completed in compliance with 37 CFR 404.8 and received by the Air Force within the period for timely objections, will be treated as an objection and may be considered as an alternative to the proposed license.

Henry Williams,
Acting Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

Notice of Intent To Grant an Exclusive Patent License

AGENCY: Air Force Materiel Command.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the Bayh-Dole Act and implementing regulations, the Department of the Air Force hereby gives notice of its intent to grant an exclusive patent license agreement to The University of Utah, an educational institution duly organized, validly existing, and in good standing in the State of Utah, having a place of business at 615 Arapeen Drive, Suite 310, Salt Lake City, UT 84108. Authority: 35 U.S.C. 209; 37 CFR 404.

DATES: Written objections must be filed no later than fifteen (15) calendar days after the date of publication of this Notice.

ADDRESSES: Submit written objections to the Air Force Materiel Command Law Office, AFMCLO/JAZ, 2240 B Street, Rm. 101, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433–7109; Facsimile: (937) 255–3733; or Email: afmclo.jaz.tech@us.af.mil. Include Docket No. ATT–160771A–JA in the subject line of the message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Air Force Materiel Command Law Office, AFMCLO/JAZ, 2240 B Street, Rm. 101, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433–7109;