

ALERT

June 2023

Scam Targeting Trademark Owners

By: MHH Intellectual Property Practice Group

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) has issued an alert regarding a new scam targeting trademark owners. Scammers are calling trademark owners claiming they work for the USPTO. Many of them use “spoofed” phone numbers, which make the calls appear to be from the USPTO. The scammers request personal and payment information claiming the information is required to maintain or process the trademark owner’s trademark applications or registrations. The scammer then uses this information to steal from the victim.

The USPTO will not directly contact any Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP (MHH) client who has retained MHH as trademark counsel. Where MHH has been so retained, the USPTO will only communicate with MHH on any matter regarding your trademark applications and registrations. Likewise, any information regarding payments required to be made to the USPTO on such matters will come to you from MHH, not the USPTO. **IF YOU RECEIVE A CALL FROM SOMEONE CLAIMING THEY ARE WITH THE USPTO, DO NOT PROVIDE THEM WITH ANY INFORMATION AND PLEASE ADVISE US OF THE CALL.**

If you have any questions regarding the matter raised in this Alert, please feel free to contact Terese Arenth at tarenth@moritthock.com or Michael Schwab at mschwab@moritthock.com.

Moritt Hock & Hamroff LLP is a broad-based commercial law firm with more than 85 lawyers and a staff of paralegals. The firm's practice areas include: closely-held/family business practice; commercial foreclosure; commercial lending & finance; construction; copyrights, trademarks & licensing; corporate, mergers and acquisitions, & securities; COVID litigation; creditors' rights, restructuring & bankruptcy; privacy, cybersecurity & technology; dispute resolution; employment; healthcare; landlord & tenant; litigation; marketing, advertising & promotions; not-for-profit; real estate; secured lending, equipment & transportation finance; sports law; tax; and trusts & estates.

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