

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Trademark Trial and Appeal Board
P.O. Box 1451
Alexandria, VA 22313-1451

Tdc

Mailed: June 29, 2009

Opposition No. 91165229

Athletics Investment Group
LLC d/b/a The Oakland
Athletics Baseball Company

v.

The Board of Trustees of the
University of Alabama

Tyrone Craven, Paralegal Specialist:

Opposer's consented motion filed June 23, 2009 to suspend proceedings for six months is noted.¹

Because the parties are negotiating for a possible settlement of this case, proceedings herein are suspended until **three months** from the mailing date of this action, subject to the right of either party to request resumption at any time. See Trademark Rule 2.117(c).

In the event that there is no word from either party concerning the progress of their negotiations, upon

¹ If the parties agree to another extension or suspension, they will be expected to report to the Board on the progress of discovery, or of any ongoing settlement negotiations. Such report must include: a recitation of discovery taken to date, a statement of issues that have been resolved and issues that remain to be resolved, and **a firm timetable** for resolution. Absent such a report, any future motion to extend or suspend may not be approved, even though agreed to by the parties.

conclusion of the suspension period, proceedings shall resume without further notice or order from the Board, upon the schedule set out below.

Applicant is allowed **THIRTY DAYS** from resumption in which to answer the **notice of opposition**. The parties are allowed the same THIRTY DAYS in which to serve responses to any outstanding discovery requests. Trial dates, including the close of discovery, are reset as follows:

Proceedings resume:	9/30/2009
Discovery Period to close:	12/29/2009
30-day testimony period for party in position of plaintiff to close:	3/29/2010
30-day testimony period for party in position of defendant to close:	5/28/2010
15-day rebuttal testimony period to close:	7/12/2010

In each instance, a copy of the transcript of testimony together with copies of documentary exhibits, must be served on the adverse party within thirty days after completion of the taking of testimony. Trademark Rule 2.125.

Briefs shall be filed in accordance with Trademark Rule 2.128(a) and (b). An oral hearing will be set only upon request filed as provided by Trademark Rule 2.129.

If, during the suspension period, either of the parties or their attorneys should have a change of address, the Board should be so informed.

NEWS FROM THE TTAB:

The USPTO published a notice of final rulemaking in the Federal Register on August 1, 2007, at 72 F.R. 42242. By this notice, various rules governing Trademark Trial and Appeal Board inter partes proceedings are amended. Certain amendments have an effective date of August 31, 2007, while most have an effective date of November 1, 2007. For further information, the parties are referred to a reprint of the final rule and a chart summarizing the affected rules, their changes, and effective dates, both viewable on the USPTO website via these web addresses:

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/notices/72fr42242.pdf>
http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/com/sol/notices/72fr42242_FinalRuleChart.pdf

By one rule change effective August 31, 2007, the Board's standard protective order is made applicable to all TTAB inter partes cases, whether already pending or commenced on or after that date. However, as explained in the final rule and chart, this change will not affect any case in which any protective order has already been approved or imposed by the Board. Further, as explained in the final rule, parties are free to agree to a substitute protective order or to supplement or amend the standard order even after August 31, 2007, subject to Board approval. The standard protective order can be viewed using the following web address:

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/ttab/tbmp/stndagmnt.htm>