

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

Mailed: March 24, 2008

Opposition No. 91177939

Mir Rahim

v.

Tennis Industry Association

**Robert H. Coggins,
Interlocutory Attorney:**

On January 26, 2008, the Board issued an order permitting opposer thirty days in which to show cause why judgment should not be entered against opposer based on opposer's apparent loss of interest in this case. Now before the Board is opposer's February 11, 2008 reply.

By his reply opposer states that he has retained new counsel since the withdrawal of his previous attorneys, enters an appearance of new counsel¹, and states that he "remains committed to prosecute" this opposition proceeding. From these representations it appears that opposer has not lost interest in this case.

Accordingly, the order to show cause is discharged and proceedings are resumed. Discovery is open. The parties are

¹The appearance of counsel is noted and entered.

allowed thirty days from the mailing date of this order to serve responses to any outstanding discovery requests. Trial dates, including the close of discovery, are reset as follows:

Discovery period to close:	8/1/08
30-day testimony period for party in position of plaintiff to close:	10/30/08
30-day testimony period for party in position of defendant to close:	12/29/08
15-day rebuttal testimony period to close:	2/12/09

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 Rules 2.128(a) and (b). An oral hearing will be set only upon request filed as provided by Trademark Rule 2.129.

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>