TTAB

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

#78853377

Mailed: December 6, 2008

Opposition No. 91178739

Mortgage Guaranteed
Investments, LLC

v.

The Trustees of the Trust
Associates, a Georgia Trust,
comprising Louis Brown, a
United States citizen

Tina Craven, Paralegal Specialist:

It is noted by the Board that opposer's time for filing a brief on the case has expired, and no brief has been filed. Trademark Rule 2.128(a)(3) provides that when a party in the position of plaintiff fails to file a main brief, an order may be issued allowing plaintiff until a set time, not less than fifteen days, in which to show cause why the Board should not treat such failure as a concession of the case. The rule further provides that if plaintiff fails to file a response to the order, or files a response indicating that it has lost interest in the case, judgment may be entered against plaintiff.

In view of the above, opposer is allowed until thirty days from the mailing date of this order to show cause why the

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Board should not treat its failure to file a brief as a concession of the case, failing which a judgment dismissing the notice of opposition with prejudice will be entered against opposer.

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

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MICHAEL J. MEHRMAN
MEHRMAN LAW OFFICE, P.C.
5605 GLENRIDGE DRIVE
ATLANTA, GA 30342