

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office
Trademark Trial and Appeal Board
2900 Crystal Drive
Arlington, Virginia 22202-3513

jh/EAD

Mailed: July 10, 2003

Opposition No. 92041310

Bruce Mandaro, dba Slipknot

v.

SLIPKNOT, INCORPORATED

Elizabeth A. Dunn, Attorney:

On March 12, 2003, the parties filed a stipulated protective agreement, and on March 27, 2003, registrant filed a motion to suspend the proceedings pending final determination of a civil action between the parties. No response to applicant's motion has been received from opposer.

With regard to the stipulated protective agreement, its receipt by the Board is noted and the parties are referred, as appropriate, to TBMP §§ 416.05 (Signature of Protective Order), 416.06 (Filing Confidential Materials With Board), 416.07 (Handling of Confidential Materials by Board).

The parties are advised that only confidential or trade secret information should be filed pursuant to a

stipulated protective agreement. Such an agreement may not be used as a means of circumventing paragraphs (d) and (e) of 37 CFR § 2.27, which provide, in essence, that the file of a published application or issued registration, and all proceedings relating thereto, should otherwise be available for public inspection.

The Board has reviewed the compliant filed in the civil action (attached to applicant's motion to suspend), and believes that this proceeding should be suspended pending the final outcome of the civil action between the parties. See Trademark Rule 2.117(a); and TBMP §510.02(a).

Inasmuch as the parties are involved in a civil action which will have a bearing on or be dispositive of this opposition, applicant's motion to suspend proceedings is granted, and proceedings are suspended pending final disposition of the civil action between the parties.

Within twenty days after the final determination of the civil action, the interested party should notify the Board so that this case may be called up for appropriate action.

During the suspension period the Board should be notified of any address changes for the parties or their attorneys.