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

Mailed: December 17, 2002

Opposition No 91153937
Serial No. 78037737

Lawrence K. Nodine
NEEDLE & ROSENBERG, P.C.
THE CANDLER BUILDING 127 PEACHTREE ST NE
ATLANTA, GA 30303-1810

WHITE CASTLE MANAGMENT CO.

v.

AFC ENTERPRISES, INC.

KAREN K. HAMMOND
PORTER WRIGHT MORRIS & ARTHUR LLP.
41 SOUTH HIGH STREET
COLUMBUS, OH 43215

LATRICIA HARRISON, LEGAL ASSISTANT:

A notice of opposition to the registration sought in the above-identified application has been filed. A copy of the notice is attached.

ANSWER IS DUE FORTY DAYS after the mailing date hereof. (See Patent and Trademark Rule 1.7 for expiration date falling on Saturday, Sunday or a holiday).

Proceedings will be conducted in accordance with the Trademark Rules of Practice, set forth in Title 37, part 2, of the Code of Federal Regulations. The parties are reminded of the recent amendments to the Trademark Rules that became effective October 9, 1998. See Notice of Final Rulemaking published in the *Official Gazette* on September 29, 1998 at 1214 TMOG 145. Slight corrections to the rules, resulting in a correction notice, were published in the *Official Gazette* on October 20, 1998 at 1215 TMOG 64. A copy of the recent amendments to the Trademark Rules, as well as the *Trademark Trial and Appeal Board Manual of Procedure* (TBMP), is available at http://www.uspto.gov.

Discovery and testimony periods are set as follows:

Discovery period to open: **January 06, 2003**

Discovery period to close: **July 05, 2003**

30-day testimony period for party in position of plaintiff to close: **October 03, 2003**

30-day testimony period for party in position of defendant to close: **December 02, 2003**

15-day rebuttal testimony period for plaintiff to close: **January 16, 2004**

A party must serve on the adverse party a copy of the transcript of any testimony taken during the party's testimony period, together with copies of documentary exhibits, within 30 days after completion of the taking of such testimony. See Trademark Rule 2.l25.

Briefs shall be filed in accordance with Trademark Rule 2.l28(a) and (b). An oral hearing will be set only upon request filed as provided by Trademark Rule 2.l29.

NOTE: The Board allows parties to utilize telephone conferences to discuss or resolve many interlocutory matters that arise in inter partes cases. See the *Official Gazette* notice titled *"Permanent Expansion of Telephone Conferencing on Interlocutory Matters in Inter Partes Cases Before the Trademark Trial and Appeal Board,"* 1235 TMOG 68 (June 20, 2000). A hard copy of the *Official Gazette* containing this notice is available for a fee from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 (Telephone (202) 512-1800). The notice is also available at http://www.uspto.gov. Interlocutory matters which the Board agrees to discuss or decide by phone conference may be decided adversely to any party which fails to participate.

If the parties to this proceeding are also parties to other Board proceedings involving related marks or, during the pendency of this proceeding, they become parties to such proceedings, they should notify the Board immediately, so that the Board can consider consolidation of proceedings.