

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

Mailed: March 3, 2009

Opposition No. 91179848

State Automobile Mutual  
Insurance Company

v.

Safe Auto Insurance Company

Opposition No. 91180253

Safe Auto Insurance Company

v.

State Automobile Mutual  
Insurance Company

**Clara Vela, Paralegal Specialist**

The Board has been notified that the civil action which occasioned the suspension of this proceeding is still pending. Accordingly, proceedings herein remain suspended pending final determination of the civil action. See Trademark Rule 2.117(a).

Within twenty days after such final determination, the parties shall so notify the Board and call up this proceeding for appropriate action. During the suspension period, the parties shall notify the Board of any address changes for the parties or their attorneys.

**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](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>