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Thank you for reading the December 2023 issue of Sterne Kessler's MarkIt to Market® newsletter. This month, we discuss the USPTO's new guidance on "clothed" consent agreements, three ways to protect your identity and avoid trademark scams during the holidays, and our Trademark Practice's annual holiday event to benefit DC-based non-profit, Stockings from Karen.

Our [Trademark & Brand Protection practice](#) here at Sterne Kessler is devoted to guiding companies of all sizes in developing and maintaining strong brands around the world. There is always something new and exciting happening in our unique IP niche, and we bring you updates each month to help you keep on top of it all. Thanks for your readership. If there is something you would like us to cover, please don't hesitate to reach out to us and let us know!

Kind Regards,

Monica Riva Talley
Editor

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The Emperor Has No... Agreement? The USPTO's Recent Update on "Clothed" Consent Agreements

By: [Shana L. Olson](#)

As any good trademark practitioner knows, a “naked” consent agreement is one in which one party provides consent to the registration of another party’s mark *without* an explanation of why confusion is unlikely, or what the parties will do to minimize a likelihood of confusion. What, then, is the opposite of being naked? Clothed, of course.



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No, No, No! How to Avoid Scams and Stay Merry this Holiday Season

By: [Lauriel F. Dalier](#)

Especially during the holi-daze, it can be easy to let our safeguards down and fall prey to scammers looking to make a quick buck. Trademark applicants and registrants interacting with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) often find themselves inundated with scam and spam communications, via email, snail mail, and even via the phone. To protect your identity and wallet, below are some safeguards you should use all year long to protect yourself against scammers pretending to be USPTO employees.

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Stockings from Karen Charitable Giving

To celebrate the season of giving, our Trademark Practice once again partnered with Stockings from Karen (SFK) to fill stockings for the holidays in our DC office. SFK is a DC-based non-profit

organization that gives the gift of self-esteem to teen foster girls through the annual delivery of Christmas stockings filled with toiletries.

We are proud to support SFK and other charitable organizations this holiday season.



[Learn More About SFK](#)

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