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Scott B. Fisher is a partner at Jaspan Schlesinger LLP. Fisher is an authority in intellectual property law. He handles registration of trademarks and prosecution and cancellation proceedings before the United States Trademark Trial and Appeal Board.

The new year begins with new options available to individuals and businesses to clear away U.S. trademarks impacting their own marks or logos, Fisher said.

"The new procedures, known as expungement and reexamination proceedings, provide a faster and less expensive alternative to contested cancellation proceedings and remove unused registered trademarks from the federal trademark register," he said.

"With expungement, a trademark may be cancelled because of the failure to use the trademark in connection with the goods or services identified," Fisher said. "Reexamination allows anyone to request cancellation of the goods or services listed in a registered trademark because the trademark was not used in connection with those goods or services on or before a particular date of filing."

"As a practical matter, the new trademark proceedings should provide a less-costly alternative for individuals and businesses to clear away unused registered trademarks which may present a substantial likelihood of confusion to their own marks or logos," he explained.

Fisher is also an experienced litigator who practices in state and federal courts at both the trial and appellate levels. He concentrates primarily in the area of general civil litigation, with an emphasis on commercial litigation matters, including complex commercial cases, class action litigation, and appellate work in state and federal courts.

He believes that the key to his success has been his creativity, meticulous preparation, and willingness to maintain civility even in adversarial circumstances.

Jaspan Schlesinger LLP is one of the region's leading full-service law firms. For 75 years, the firm has been providing legal services in the areas of commercial litigation, banking and financial services, education law, municipal law, real estate, land use and zoning, tax certiorari and condemnation, estates and trusts, and matrimonial and family

SCOTT B. FISHER

*Jaspan
Schlesinger LLP*

