

### *Washington Post* interviews Senniger Powers' Paul Fleischut

Former “In Living Color” star Damon Wayans, famous for his character Homey the Clown, has twice attempted to trademark a controversial term for a retail concept that would sell books, music, hip-hop clothing and general merchandise. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office recently rejected Wayans’ second attempt to register the trademark.

Examiner Kelly Boulton stated the word is “almost universally understood to be derogatory,” declining the application based on Section 2(a) of the Lanham Act. While some academics and pop culture critics claim the controversial slang is used more often within hip-hop culture to express camaraderie, many others have echoed Boulton’s concerns and applauded the decision to reject Wayans’ application.

In an interview with the *Washington Post*, Senniger Powers partner [Paul Fleischut](#) recently commented on Wayans’ trademark application, noting that "There is an act by Congress that says you cannot register a word that is scandalous or that disparages a particular group."

See the weblink below to read the entire article.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/03/14/AR2006031401960.html>