

When the applied-for string is mentioned, will the general public spontaneously think of the community?

Instructions

1 Explain how the applied-for string is clearly related to or represents the community.

2 Specify whether the applied-for string has any other major meaning beyond identifying the community described in the application or the members of that community. The applicant entity may provide relevant information regarding the geographic, regional or thematic context of which the community is or is not a part and to which the string might refer.

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0. Definitions

“Profession d’avocat” (referred to as *“Legal Profession”* in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer exclusively to the legal profession of lawyer, as regulated in France by Law No. 71-1130 of 31 December 1971, reforming certain judicial and legal professions, Decree No. 91-1197 of 27 November 1991, and the Barreaux’ national rules of procedure.

“Avocat” (referred to as *“Attorney”* in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to any person practising the Profession d’avocat and registered on the Tableau, whether a natural person (an Avocat individually registered with a Barreau) or a legal entity (a company or practice entity of Avocats registered with a Barreau).

“Barreau” (referred to as *“Bar Association”* in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to all Avocats practising before each French

judicial court, as well as before the Conseil d'État and the Cour de cassation, and registered on the Tableau.

"Ordre" (referred to as *"Bar Association"* in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to the democratic institution representing each Barreau, administered by a Conseil de l'Ordre chaired by a Bâtonnier (or by a President in the case of the Ordre des avocats près du Conseil d'État et de la Cour de cassation), elected by all avocats of that Barreau.

"Conseil de l'Ordre" (referred to as *"Bar Association Board of Directors"* in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to the representative and deliberative body of the Barreau, elected by all its Avocats.

"Bâtonnier" (referred to as *"President"* in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to the person who chairs the Conseil de l'Ordre and whose mission is to represent the Avocats of their Barreau, uphold professional ethics, ensure discipline, and promote the activities of the Ordre.

"Tableau" (referred to as *"Roll"* in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to the official list of Avocats of each Barreau adopted by the Conseil de l'Ordre, including two main sections: natural persons (Avocats individually registered with the Barreau) and legal entities (companies or practice entities of Avocats registered with the Barreau).

"Conseil National des Barreaux" and/or **"CNB"** (referred to as *"National Council of Bar Associations"* in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to the public-interest organisation responsible for representing the Profession d'avocat nationally before public authorities.

"Conférence des Bâtonniers" shall hereinafter refer to the association representing 163 Barreaux and 45,000 Avocats.

"Centre Régional de Formation Professionnelle des Avocats" and/or **"CRFPA"** (referred to as **"School of Attorney"** in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to the institution providing the initial professional training of Avocats to-be after they have passed the entrance examination organised through the Instituts d'Études Judiciaires, preparing them for the Certificat d'Aptitude à la Profession d'Avocat (or **"CAPA"**), and providing continuing training for Avocats.

"Caisse Autonome des Règlements Pécuniaires des Avocats" and/or **"CARPA"** (referred to as **"Attorney Payment Fund"** in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to the intra-professional institutions that secure fund-handling transactions carried out by Avocats on behalf of their clients.

"Conseil de discipline" (referred to as **"Disciplinary Council"** in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to a professional disciplinary jurisdiction established at each french court of appeal and competent to hear breaches and misconduct committed by Avocats belonging to the Barreaux established within that jurisdiction.

"Syndicat d'avocats" and/or **"Association d'avocats"** (referred to as **"Attorney's Union"** and/or **"Professional Union"** in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer to a collective organisation of Avocats, distinct from the Ordres and Barreaux, responsible for advancing claims, defending professional interests, and participating in debate on the development of the Profession d'avocat.

"Institution de la Profession d'avocat" (referred to as **"Professional institution"** in the Internal Regulations of the Bordeaux Bar Association) shall hereinafter refer interchangeably to the Ordres, the CNB, and the Conférence des Bâtonniers.

“Communauté professionnelle des Avocats” shall hereinafter refer collectively to the Avocats, the Ordres, the CNB, the Conférence des Bâtonniers, the CRFPAs, the CARPAs, the Conseils de discipline, the Syndicats and Associations d’avocats, as well as ad hoc entities mandated by the Institutions de la Profession d’avocat and social and/or technical bodies mandated by the Institutions de la Profession d’avocat.

1. Clear and immediate connection with the community

When the applied-for string « **.avocat** » is mentioned, the general public will **spontaneously and primarily associate it with the Communauté professionnelle des Avocats** because of the direct connection between the string and the customary, legal and social name of this regulated profession.

The applied-for extension corresponds to the term directly used to designate the Communauté professionnelle des Avocats. This community is widely known to the general public and is identified by the following terms:

- “Profession d’avocat”;
- “Avocat”;
- “Avocats”;
- “Institution de la Profession d’avocat”;
- And “Communauté professionnelle des Avocats”.

These expressions are:

- Commonly used in the media, by institutions and in social usage;
- Immediately associated with the functions of representing and defending a client in court through their Avocat;
- Recognised as referring to a unique regulated profession that is identifiable and distinct from other legal professions.

Accordingly, the applied-for string “**.avocat**” is **directly and intuitively linked to the professional community of the same name**, without requiring any additional interpretation.

2. Absence of a predominant alternative meaning

The applied-for string « **.avocat** » has no major alternative meaning that could compete with or detract from its primary association with the identified Communauté professionnelle.

It does not correspond to:

- A dominant or globally recognised brand in another sector;
- An alternative geographic or cultural entity identified by the general public;
- Or a secondary meaning capable of overshadowing the reference to the Profession d'avocat.

In ordinary language and institutional usage, the term refers **almost exclusively to the legally regulated Profession d'avocat and has its own distinct etymology.**

3. Context of use and public perception

In media, legal and social contexts, the term applied-for string is consistently used to designate:

- Professionals whose role is to defend and represent their clients' interests in court;
- One of the key professions within the judicial system, safeguarding fundamental rights and freedoms;
- More generally, the entire Communauté professionnelle des Avocats.

This semantic consistency reinforces an **immediate, intuitive and unequivocal association in the public mind.**

When the applied-for string is mentioned, the general public will spontaneously associate it with the Communauté professionnelle des Avocats because of:

- The direct correspondence between the applied-for string and the name of the profession;
- The absence of any dominant alternative meaning;
- The consistent use of the term in institutional and media contexts.

The applied-for string is therefore perceived as a **natural and exclusive designation of the Communauté professionnelle des Avocats**, ensuring clear and immediate identification by the public.