

**UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**





USPTO Practice Update

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



IP and the U.S. economy

27.9M

IP-intensive jobs (2014)

38.2%

IP-intensive industries share of total U.S. GDP (2014)

\$6.6 trillion

Value add of IP-intensive industries (2014)

\$1,312/week

(46% higher)

Avg. weekly wages for workers in IP-intensive industries

\$115.2 billion

Revenue specific to the licensing of IP rights totaled (2012)

28 industries

Deriving revenues from licensing

Source: Department of Commerce. 2016. "Intellectual Property and the U.S. Economy: 2016 Update". September 26. <https://www.uspto.gov/sites/default/files/documents/IPandtheUSEconomySept2016.pdf> (January 3, 2018).



Recap of the USPTO in FY18



USPTO
headquarters in
Alexandria,
Virginia

12,579
employees

8,185 patent
examiners

579 trademark
examining attorneys

383 Patent Trial and
Appeal Board judges

73 Trademark Trial
and Appeal Board
judges

Patents

643,349 patent
applications filed

338,072 patents
issued

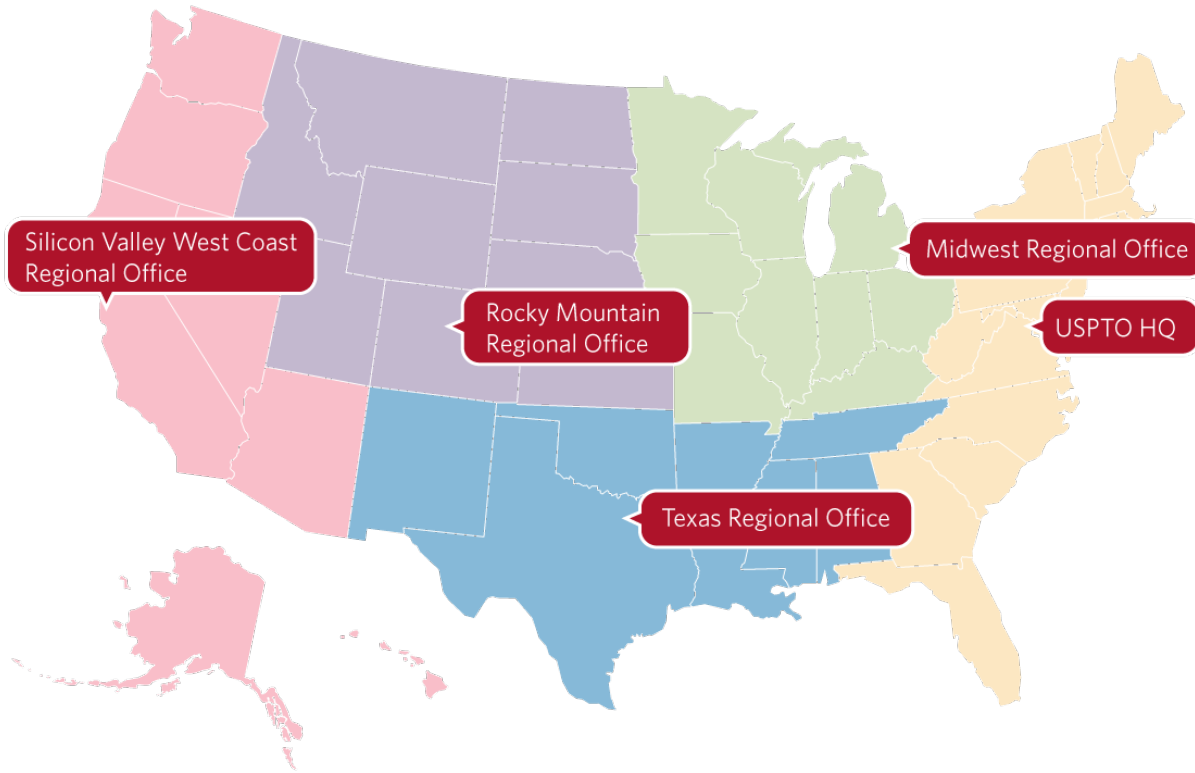
Trademarks

468,926 trademark
applications filed

273,808 certificates
of registration issued

uspto

USPTO offices



Detroit

- Operational since July 2012

Denver

- Byron G. Rogers Federal Building
- Operational since July 2014

Silicon Valley

- San Jose City Hall Building
- Operational since October 2015

Dallas

- Terminal Annex Federal Building
- Operational since November 2015



USPTO Regional Offices and Outreach Leadership



Hope Shimabuku
Texas
Regional Office
Dallas, Texas



John Cabeca
Silicon Valley
Regional Office
San Jose, California



Damian Porcari
Midwest
Regional Office
Detroit, Michigan



Elizabeth Dougherty
Atlantic Outreach Liason
Alexandria, Virginia

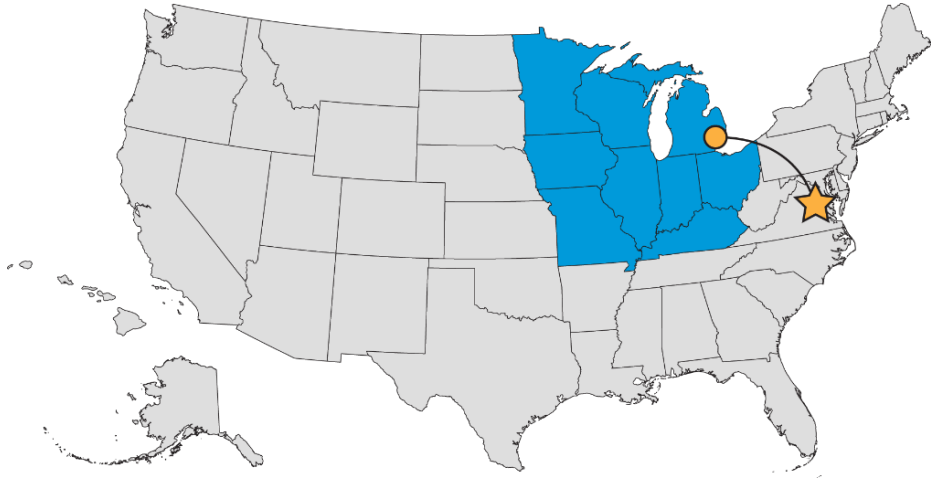


Molly Kocalski
Rocky Mountain
Regional Office
Denver, Colorado



Elijah J. McCoy Midwest Regional Office

300 River Place Drive, Suite 2900, Detroit, Michigan



First regional office opened in 2012

- 458 patent examiners hoteling in the region
- 11 Patent Trial and Appeal Board Judges
- 47 onsite examiners
- 21 Management/Staff



- **Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.**
- **Services**
 - Public search facility available from 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 - PTAB Hearing Room
 - Public meeting space
 - Examiner training room
 - Monthly public IP educational programs

Texas Regional Office

207 S. Houston Street, Suite 159, Dallas, TX 75202



Employees hired:

- 122 patent examiners
- 18 Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) judges
- 25 management/staff



- Office hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Services
 - Public search facility available from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - Examiner interview room
 - Hearing room
 - Public meeting space

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office – Texas Regional Office

The First Floor - Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. CT

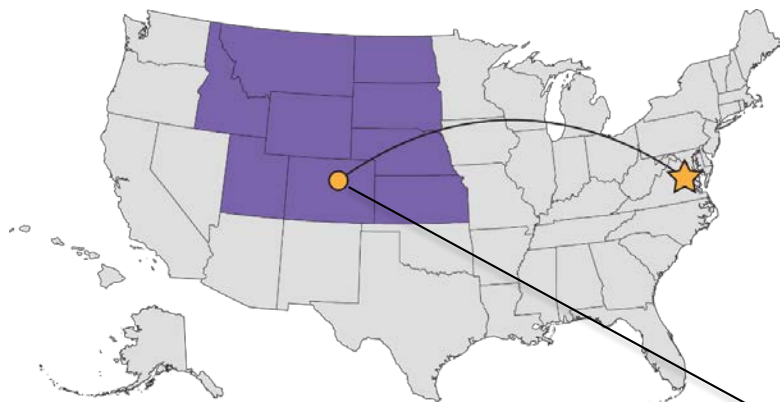


The first floor houses public functions: reception, Public Search Facility, Public Interview Room, Hearing Room, Training and Collaborate Spaces



Rocky Mountain Regional Office

1961 Stout Street, Denver, CO 80294



Employees:

- 55 patent examiners
- 11 Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) judges
- 141 regional teleworkers

Outreach highlights:

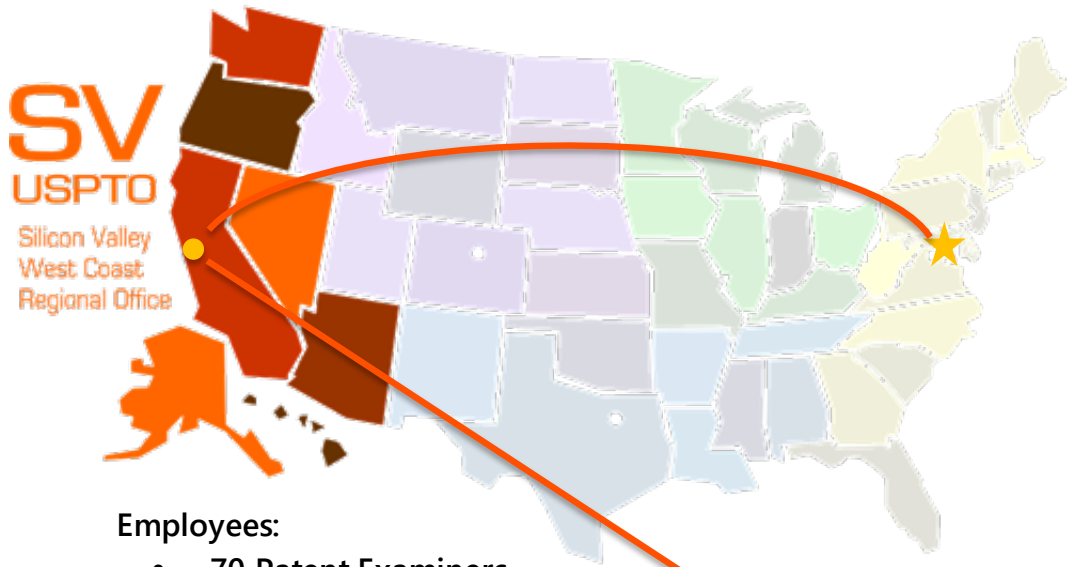
- Advisory hours & tours
- The Path to a Patent Series
- Trademark Tuesday



- Office hours: 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Services
 - Public search facility
 - Available from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - Examiner interview room
 - Hearing room
 - Public meeting space

Silicon Valley Regional Office

San Jose City Hall | 26 S. Fourth Street, San Jose, CA 95113



Employees:

- ~70 Patent Examiners
- 26 Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) judges
- 22 Management/Support Staff



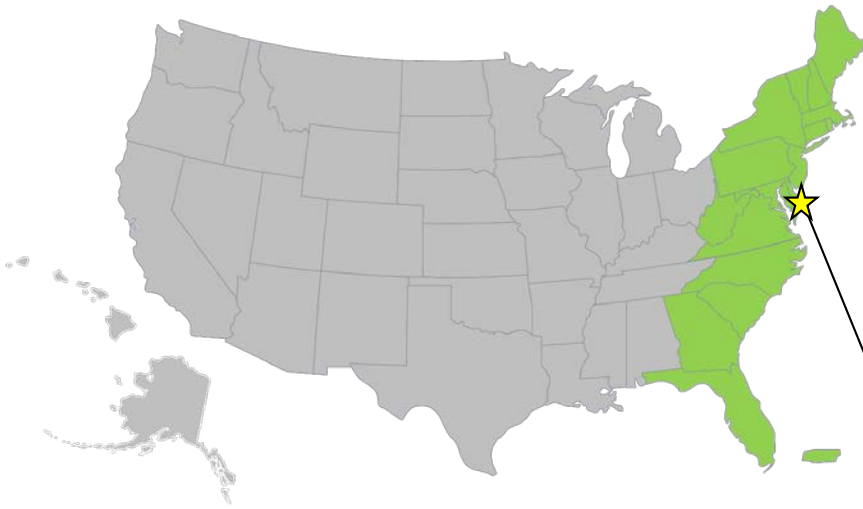
**Office Hours: Monday –Friday,
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM PT**

Services


- Public Search Facility
- Examiner Interview Rooms
- Hearing Room
- Public Meeting Spaces

Atlantic Region – USPTO Headquarters

600 Dulany Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314



Core Functions:



- Office hours: 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.
- Services
 - Public search facility available from 8 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
 - Examiner interview room
 - Hearing room
 - Public meeting space



USPTO Resources

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Startup resources

Webpage that serves as a one-stop shop for startups

uspto UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Search uspto.gov

Patents Trademarks IP Policy Learning and Resources Quick Links

Home / Learning and Resources / Startup Resources

Startup Resources

Many startup businesses face unique IP-related challenges, such as IP portfolio prerequisites to secure funding, and the possibility of costly patent infringement demand letters and lawsuits. We have tailored this area of our website to suit the specific needs of startup businesses, a segment of our stakeholders that continues to be recognized as an outsize engine of job creation, economic growth, and unparalleled innovation in the United States.

This portal is part of our Startup Partnership Initiative—putting key resources and critical information for startups in a single place so it's easier to find what you may need when you need it.

Patents for Startups <p>The patent process can be challenging if you are not familiar with it. Here is basic information on the patent process.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Patent Process OverviewInventors Assistance CenterPatent FAQsPatent HomepageSearch for PatentsOfficial Gazette for Patents	Trademarks for Startups <p>The trademark process can be confusing for a beginner, so here is basic information on registering a trademark.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Trademark BasicsSearch for TrademarksFiling onlineTrademark Homepage	Startup Assistance <p>The Inventors Assistance Center and Trademark Assistance Center provide information and services to the public. Center staff can answer questions on patent and trademark processes, but cannot provide specific legal advice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Inventors Assistance CenterTrademark Assistance CenterPatents Ombudsman ProgramBusinessUSA (link is external)	Current Events <p>Information about conferences, conventions and other opportunities to engage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Upcoming EventsInventors Eye Events & Announcements
Scam Prevention <p>We provide a public forum for the publication of complaints concerning invention promoters/promotion firms. However, we do not investigate complaints or participate in legal proceedings related to invention promoters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Scam Prevention BasicsNon-USPTO Trademark SolicitationsAmerican Inventors Protection Act of 1999Federal Trade Commission (link is external)Consumer Protection (link is external)	Pro Se - Pro Bono <p>Are you a startup with limited resources and need help applying for a patent on an invention? If so, you may be eligible to receive pro bono ("for free") attorney representation through the nationwide Pro Bono Program. Alternatively, you might be eligible to participate in a law school clinical program near you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Pro SeInterest Form (link is external)Pro BonoInventors Eye Pushing Ahead with Pro Bono AssistancePatent and Trademark Resource CentersLaw School Clinics	Education & Information <p>Guides and additional resources and information for startups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Provisional Application for PatentFiling a Nonprovisional Utility Patent ApplicationFiling A Design Patent ApplicationFinancial ManagerPatent Litigation ToolkitIP Awareness Assessment	State Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none">U.S. map of resources

Inventors assistance center

- Provides general information about patent examination policy and procedure
- Assists with identifying necessary forms and completion
- 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday

Phone:

571-272-1000 or 800-877-8339



The screenshot shows the USPTO website header with the logo and the text "UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE". Below the header is a navigation menu with four items: "Patents", "Trademarks", "IP Policy", and "Learning and Resources". The "Learning and Resources" item is highlighted. Below the navigation menu is a breadcrumb trail: "Home / Learning and Resources / Support Centers / Inventors Assistance Center (IAC)". The main content area has the heading "Inventors Assistance Center (IAC)" and a paragraph of text: "The Inventors Assistance Center (IAC) provides patent information and services to the public. The IAC is staffed by former Supervisory Patent Examiners, experienced Primary Patent Examiners, various intellectual property specialists and attorneys who can answer general questions concerning patent examining policy and procedure." Below this text is a section titled "What IAC can do for you" with a bulleted list of five items: "Answer general questions regarding patent examining policy.", "Answer questions concerning necessary formats and items needed for your patent application.", "Assist you with forms needed and with filling out the forms.", "Direct your calls to appropriate USPTO personnel or www.USPTO.gov web pages, as necessary.", "Provide you with general information concerning patent examining rules, procedures, and fees.", "Send you patenting information and forms via USPS mail or facsimile."



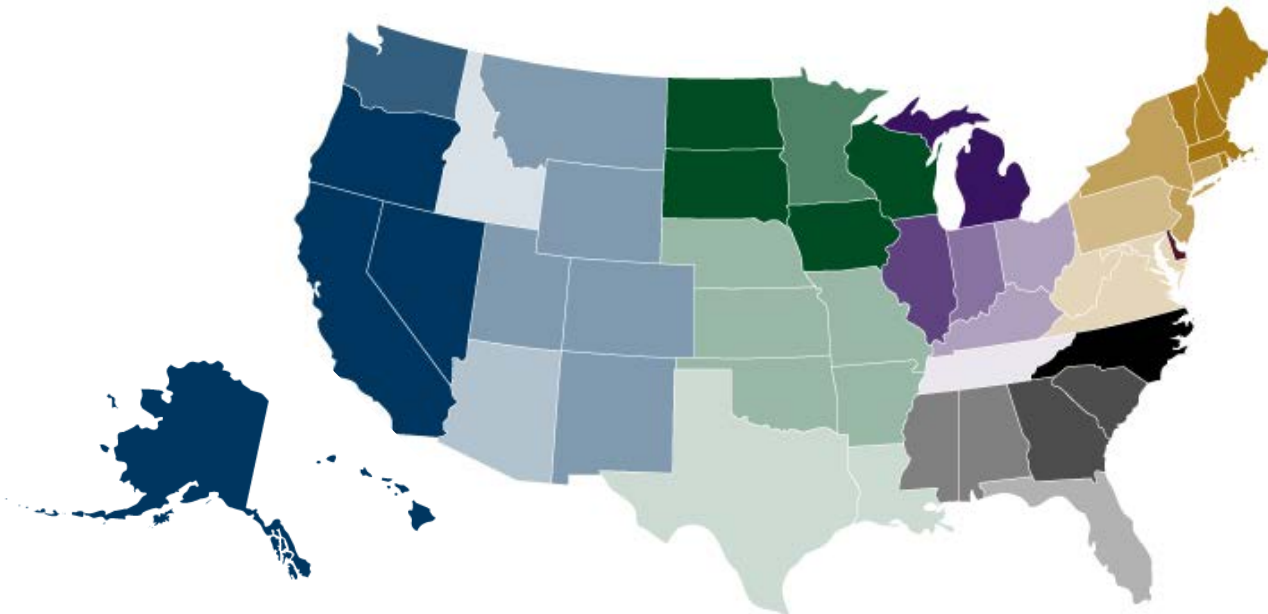
USPTO Patent Pro Bono Program

Nationwide network that assists financially under-resourced independent inventors and small businesses

- Coverage in all 50 states achieved and maintained since August 2015
- Program participants must:
 - Have income of 300% below federal poverty guidelines
 - Pay USPTO filing fees and costs
 - Demonstrate knowledge of the patent system
 - Take training course at <http://www.uspto.gov/video/cbt/certpck/index.htm>
 - Have application prescreened to ensure that there is more than an idea



Pro Bono Program organizations



- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ■ Washington Pro Bono Patent Network | ■ Gateway Venture Mentoring Service | ■ New England Program |
| ■ Idaho Patent Pro Bono | ■ TALA | ■ New York Tri State Program |
| ■ CIAP | ■ Chicago-Kent Patent Hub | ■ Delaware Program |
| ■ ProBoPat | ■ Patent Connect for Hoosiers | ■ FCBA (Mid-Atlantic) |
| ■ Arizona Public Patent Program | ■ IP Venture Clinic (OH KY) | ■ PA Patent |
| ■ Upper Midwest Program | ■ LAVPA (TN) | ■ NC Leap |
| ■ LegalCorps (MN) | ■ BBVLP Patent Program (MS AL) | ■ Georgia Patents |
| ■ Pro Bono Patent Project (MI) | | ■ Patent Pro Bono FL |



Pro Bono Program for Texas

- TALA Patent Pro Bono Program
 - Located in Austin, Texas
 - Programs designed to help participants apply sound business practices to protect intellectual property, advance careers, and develop income
 - Expanded service to include helping qualified inventors and small businesses to obtain pro bono access to registered patent professionals
 - Contact executive director – Alissa McCain at centraltexas@talarts.org



Law school clinics

- USPTO's Law School Clinic Certification program allows law students enrolled in a participating law school's clinic program to practice before the USPTO under the guidance of a law school faculty clinic supervisor
- Students gain experience drafting and filing either patent applications or trademark applications for clients of the law school clinic

Law school clinics in Texas

- Baylor Law School
 - iplawclinic@baylor.edu
- South Texas School of Law
 - patent@stcl.edu; trademark@stcl.edu
- Southern Methodist University Dedman School of Law
 - patentclinic@smu.edu; trademarkclinic@smu.edu
- Texas A&M Law School
 - patents@law.tamu.edu; trademarks@law.tamu.edu



Patent and Trademark Resource Centers (PTRCs)



Patent and Trademark Resource Centers (PTRC)

The screenshot shows the Dallas Public Library website. The header features the library's name in a large, white, sans-serif font on a dark blue background. Below the header is a navigation bar with links for Home, Catalog, My Account, Events, Databases, Services, Support Us, Locations / Hours, and About Us. There are also buttons for kids, teens, literacy, and job resources. The main content area is titled "Patents & Trademarks" and includes a list of resources: News, Free Inventor Workshops, Patent Overview & Resources, Trademark Overview & Resources, and Copyright Overview & Resources. A logo for the PTRC is displayed, with the text "patent & trademark resource center" and the URL "www.uspto.gov/ptrc". Below the logo is an "Introduction to the Dallas Public Library PTRC" section, which explains that the library is designated by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to provide free access to U.S. patents and trademark documents. The text also mentions that the PTRC includes a substantial collection of other IP resources and provides practical guidance for inventors. At the bottom of the page, it states that the PTRC is housed in the Central Library's Government Information Center and provides a link to the "Government Information Center Website" for hours and contact information.

Government Information Center

Community Information Database

Free Inventor Workshops

Grants Information

International Docs

Maps

Patents

RAND

Subject Guides

Texas Documents

U.S. Government

Welcome | Log In

Home Catalog My Account Events Databases Services Support Us Locations / Hours About Us

kids teens literacy job resources

Patents & Trademarks

- News
- Free Inventor Workshops
- Patent Overview & Resources
- Trademark Overview & Resources
- Copyright Overview & Resources

PTRC patent & trademark resource center
www.uspto.gov/ptrc

Introduction to the Dallas Public Library PTRC

As a Patent and Trademark Resource Center (PTRC), Dallas Public Library is designated by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to provide free access to U.S. patents and trademark documents in the various formats in which they are published, trained staff to assist in using the resources, and public seminars on intellectual property (IP) topics. In addition to providing access to patent and trademark documents, the PTRC includes a substantial collection of other IP resources, including sources providing practical guidance for inventors and others seeking to protect and commercialize IP.

The PTRC is housed in the Central Library's Government Information Center. Please see the [Government Information Center Website](#) for hours and contact information.



Thank you!

TexasRegionalOffice@USPTO.GOV

(469) 295-9000



