

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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**Docket:** PTO-C-2020-0055

Request for Comments on Discretion to Institute Trials Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board

**Comment On:** PTO-C-2020-0055-0001

Discretion to Institute Trials Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board

**Document:** PTO-C-2020-0055-0811

Comment from Brock Gunter-Smith

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## General Comment

Having worked at two companies now that have been subject to organized extortion by patent trolls with nonsense patents, both of which eventually were thrown out only after a couple companies with deep enough pockets stood up to them over many years and many millions of dollars, it is a truly horrific thought that Inter Partes Review could be rendered ineffective or eliminated. Patent holders SHOULD absolutely have the ability to enforce patent protections and seek compensation from those wishing to commercialize those patents. Equally though, the system MUST evolve or at least hold the line to maintain a fair and balanced system that afford a reasonable, timely, and accessible/affordable process for people and organizations to also challenge and invalidate abusive patents and patent trolling activity. Because the companies I worked for were forced to sign non-disclosure agreements when paying the extortion I won't violate that agreement in any manner...which further demonstrates the infuriating tactics that are used to bully, terrify, and muzzle the victims of patent trolls.