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January 30, 2012

Mr. David Kappos  
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Department of Commerce  
Madison Buildings  
600 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Under Secretary Kappos:

On behalf of over 1100 members of the Intellectual Property Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia, I enthusiastically join the Atlanta Chamber of Commerce in requesting your consideration of Atlanta, Georgia as a candidate for the location of a satellite office of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

As the materials provided by the Chamber of Commerce attest, Atlanta would be an ideal location for a USPTO satellite office for many reasons. Atlanta is home to a highly skilled workforce that enjoys low costs of living and housing, a thriving business environment, and an unparalleled quality of life. Atlanta's world-class airport (one of the busiest in the world) helps sustain Atlanta's status as a significant U.S. business center with international reach.

Atlanta is the foremost hub of business activity in the Southeast. The city has a long tradition of attracting and retaining an excellent, diverse talent pool – in no small part because of its proximity to four nationally recognized research universities, Emory University, University of Georgia, Georgia Institute of Technology, and Georgia State University. Three of those universities have well-recognized law schools that graduate significant numbers of future IP lawyers each year.

The IP Law Section of the State Bar of Georgia appreciates the opportunity to join in the Chamber's request for your consideration of Atlanta as a location for a satellite office. Please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shane Nichols". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

A. Shane Nichols  
Chairman  
Intellectual Property Law Section of the  
State Bar of Georgia