



Dedicated to Intellectual Property Law

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Azam Khan
Deputy Chief of Staff
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop Office of Undersecretary and Director
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: PTO-C-2011-0066
Nationwide Workforce Program

Dear Mr. Khan:

I am writing to encourage the USPTO to select the Greater Boston area as a location for one of the two remaining satellite patent offices.

The Greater Boston area is a hub of technological innovation. The area is home to many prestigious research universities, including Boston University, Harvard, MIT, Tufts, Northeastern, and Boston College. These universities provide a breeding ground for innovation and entrepreneurship, and have spawned many private companies that are now industry leaders in high tech, biotechnology, nanotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and medical devices. Together, these universities and companies develop a tremendous amount of intellectual property. Not surprisingly, then, the area is also home to many patent professionals. In fact, the area boasts the highest per-capita number of patent professionals outside of the Arlington, VA area at over 35 per 158,000 people and almost 3,000 patent professionals across New England.

The advantages of locating a satellite patent office in the Greater Boston area would be innumerable. For one, the location would provide more convenient access to the USPTO by the many patent professionals in the area, and would thus accelerate the time in which patent applications are processed and reduce the backlog in the Alexandria, Virginia office. Also, the USPTO would benefit from the ability to hire and retain recent graduates from the area's universities, as well as experienced scientific, engineering and legal professionals from the area's many private companies.

Your careful review in considering the Greater Boston area as a location for a satellite patent office is critical to our goal of maintaining the area as a hub of technological innovation. Please render a positive decision and outcome. Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

O'SHEA GETZ P.C.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Patrick D. Duplessis', is written over a faint, larger version of the signature.

Patrick D. Duplessis