

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE

Office of the Mayor/Chief Administrative Officer



January 27, 2012

Mr. David Kappos
Under Secretary for Intellectual Property
Director for the United States Patent and Trademark Office
Department of Commerce
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Subject: Regional Patent Office

Dear Mr. Kappos:

As Mayor of Albuquerque, I am writing to urge the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to consider Albuquerque as the location for the next Regional Patent Office. I believe in the need for increased use of advanced technologies in all American industries in order to remain competitive in the world economy, and Albuquerque has exceptional capabilities to assist in that mission.

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Albuquerque has an existing network of invaluable resources that will lend itself well to a Regional Patent Office. Our tremendous science and technology assets such as Sandia National Laboratories, Air Force Research Laboratory, Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute, creative citizens, institutions of higher education, and countless private companies work everyday to create new technologies. Central New Mexico is home to a high number of science and engineering Ph.D's and a high density of patent attorneys. Moreover, New Mexico's university system is widely recognized for its excellent science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) programs, which will provide a strong talent pool of potential PTO employees. Additionally, Albuquerque is home to numerous Science and Technology Parks providing additional R&D resources, talent and infrastructure that further enhances our local profile. The existing rich talent pool will be a great assist in recruitment patent examiners.

Finally, Albuquerque would make for a wonderful site for this Regional Office and its employees, due to our high quality of life, low cost of living, rich cultural experiences, breathtaking landscapes and our world-renowned hospitality. These contribute directly to positive retention rates for national employers.

I feel that these qualities and assets will help the USPTO achieve its goals of increased outreach and increased examiner retention and recruitment. My administration is ready to assist you in any way possible in your selection and relocation process. I encourage you to select Albuquerque to serve as the next Regional Patent Office. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Richard J. Berry
Mayor