With respect:

A "means test" based on, for example, the previous year's tax return should be used. Citizen individual inventors with no appreciable income should be offered a fee schedule that is within their means. That is no less than fair.

Government expenses should not be spread among citizens and non-citizens alike--why should an American taxpayer be required to in effect subsidize the cost of examining patent applications from individuals or entities that do not pay taxes to the IRS?

Conclusion: If an attorney can come to work on Saturdays to provide pro bono assistance for the poor, why can the American government not do the equivalent in the case of citizens who wish to exercise their right to protect their intellectual property?

Harry Krasnick
American citizen