



January 17, 2012

David Kappos  
Director, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 2231-1450

Re: Request for Comments on Additional USPTO Satellite Offices

Dear Director Kappos:

On behalf of the University of Denver Sturm College of Law, we would like to add our voices to those who call for the United States Patent Office to open one of its new satellite offices in Colorado. No doubt you have heard about the Denver metro region's reasonable cost of living, central location, and high quality of life, including its easy access to outdoor recreation. Those descriptions are all accurate, but others are better suited to providing you with the specific details of why so many professionals from around the country consistently choose to move to and stay in Colorado. We direct our comments here to the educational opportunities that the University of Denver can offer both future and current examiners.

The University of Denver is the largest private university in the Rocky Mountain region and is located only a few miles south of downtown Denver. The Sturm College of Law at the University of Denver is also the region's largest law school. We have nearly a thousand law students at any one time, including approximately 250 daytime students per class and 50 evening students per class. This means that the University of Denver provides a diverse array of opportunities for its students and is well-positioned to further the educational goals of the United States Patent and Trademark Office and its examiners.

The Sturm College of Law has the only evening program for law students in the state of Colorado, and that program is particularly well-suited for educating patent examiners who work during the day. It is a four-year program; evening students take 11 credits per semester. After the first year of study, students have access to cross registration between day and evening classes. Part-time evening students at Denver Law are taught by our full-time tenured faculty and have full access to all student activities, externships, clinics, and journals.

The College of Law has three full-time faculty members who specialize in patent, copyright, trademark, and internet law. In addition, our central location gives us easy access to experienced Denver area attorneys who often serve as adjuncts. Consequently, our law school offers a wide range intellectual property courses, including patent law, advanced patent law, patent litigation, introduction to intellectual property, copyright law, trademark law, advanced trademark law, computer and internet law, media law, and cyberlaw. We have attached the current course descriptions for each of these classes. Because many of our evening students are working engineers and scientists, these courses



are regularly scheduled during the evening. Should the need arise, we also have the flexibility to add courses taught by adjuncts. Moreover, if the demand stays high, we can hire additional full-time faculty who teach and write in the intellectual property field.

If the USPTO were to open a satellite office in the Denver metro region, we envision working with the USPTO to determine what additional educational opportunities would be beneficial. For example, the law school could allow students to specialize in intellectual property. We already do so in corporate and commercial law and environmental law. In addition to a J.D., those students receive a specialty certificate. In addition, or alternatively, we could provide a one-year degree that focuses on intellectual property. The point is -- the University of Denver would be happy to work with the USPTO to tailor the law school's offerings to the USPTO's needs.

If you would like any additional information about the law school or the university, or if you wish to discuss the role that the University of Denver could play in establishing a satellite patent and trademark office in Colorado and in furthering the educational opportunities for patent examiners, please do not hesitate to contact the dean of the law school, Martin Katz, or any of the law school's full-time intellectual property faculty. Contact information is provided below.

Thank you very much for your consideration of Colorado as a location for a satellite office. We have no doubt that Denver metro region would be an ideal location.

Very truly yours,

  
Chancellor Robert Coombe

Dean Martin Katz

Bernard Chao, Assistant Professor of Law

Viva Moffat, Associate Professor of Law

John Soma, Professor of Law

Contact Information:

Dean Martin Katz, [mkatz@law.du.edu](mailto:mkatz@law.du.edu)

Prof. Bernard Chao, [bchao@law.du.edu](mailto:bchao@law.du.edu)

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Prof. John Soma, [jsoma@law.du.edu](mailto:jsoma@law.du.edu)

### **Cyber Law | L4196**

This course will explore how various legal regimes are being stressed, and may need to be re-evaluated and/or adapted, as they are being applied to human interactions on the Internet. Specifically, we will examine how the collection and transmission of information over the Internet does and should affect the application of various legal doctrines (personal jurisdiction, contracts, libel, privacy, obscenity, anonymous speech, copyright and trademark).

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 3

### **Computers and Internet Law | L4145**

Computers and Internet Law is designed to consider the areas in which computer technology and the legal environment intersect. This includes legal protection of computer software; contracting for computer services; computer data banks and privacy; the check-less society; and the relationships between Federal Communications Commission policies and computers.

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 3

### **Copyright Law | L4214**

This course covers the major copyright law doctrines. Topics include the subject matter of copyright, the scope of protection, rights conferred, infringement doctrines, defenses, remedies, and attention to particular industries and recent developments in the law.

Prerequisites: None (but Intro to IP strongly recommended).

Credit Hours: 3

### **Intro to Intellectual Property | L4310**

This survey course covers the basics of United States intellectual property law, including patents, copyrights, trademarks, and trade secrets. The course addresses the policies underlying the protection of intellectual property and compares the different ways organizations and individuals can use intellectual property to protect their interests. This course is intended both for students who want an introduction to intellectual property and for those who intend to pursue a career in intellectual property law.

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 3

### **Patent Law | L4471**

This course reviews the major patent law doctrines. Topics include patentability requirements under 35 U.S.C. §§ 101, 102, 103, and 112, claim construction, various infringement doctrines, affirmative defenses and remedies.

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 3

### **Patent Law (Advanced) | L4474**

This course explores more than a dozen advanced topics in patent law. These issues include claim drafting; international patent applications; opinion letters; remedies in patent cases; security interests; patent ability of software; and patent ability of genetic sequences. While Patent Law is not a formal prerequisite for this course, students who have not taken Patent Law should be prepared to do extra reading in the first few weeks of the semester to familiarize themselves with the basic concepts of patent law.

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 3

### **Patent Litigation | L4483**

This is an in-depth study of law, strategies and tactics of patent litigation. Topics include legal principles, procedures and strategies associated with patent claim construction, infringement, invalidity and unenforceability. Also, students cover patent trial practice with a focus on both the knowledge and practical skills necessary to litigate patent cases.

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 3

### **Trademark Law | L4115**

This course covers the major trademark law doctrines. Topics include the acquisition and preservation of trademark rights, false advertising claims, infringement doctrines, defenses, and remedies, with attention to internet issues and recent developments in the law.

Prerequisites: Intro to IP recommended

Credit Hours: 3

### **Trademark Law (Advanced) | L4112**

This seminar will focus on complex practical and legal issues confronted by today's trademark practitioners, ranging from brand protection strategies to litigating equitable relief claims for trademark infringement. The course will also cover how trademark principles are being applied to the internet and e-commerce. The course will focus on U.S. trademark law, but will include exposure to the aspects of international trademark law that are most frequently encountered by U.S. trademark practitioners. The course will call for students to participate in hands-on exercises, such as developing a new brand and arguing a preliminary injunction motion. The course requires a basic familiarity with trademark law, but the specific Trademark Law class is not a prerequisite.

Prerequisites: Introduction to Intellectual Property survey course or its equivalent

Credit Hours: 2

### **Media Law | L4433**

This course addresses the First Amendment, statutory, and common law regimes under which the news media operate in the United States, ranging from the seminal *New York Times v. Sullivan*

to the recent decisions on anonymity for online bloggers. Because a media lawyer's tasks involve intense amounts of writing, the course will have four to five practical writing exercises, ranging from the drafting of a complaint to a motion to quash a subpoena, and the like.

Prerequisites: None

Credit Hours: 3