January 13, 2012

The Honorable David Kappos:
Undersecretary for Intellectual Property
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
U.S. Department of Commerce
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Undersecretary Kappos:

I am writing to encourage you to select Massachusetts as the location for a New England regional satellite office for the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), authorized under Section 23 of the America Invents Act.

Massachusetts is a global leader in research, technology, and innovation. New England has the second highest number of patents and patent applications after Silicon Valley. And Massachusetts is widely cited – from the Kauffman Foundation to the Milken Institute – as the premier location for innovation and entrepreneurship in the United States.

Our world-class colleges and universities can provide an unparalleled pool of talent for the USPTO. Our local intellectual property expertise can sustain the highest levels of professional development and community. And our cluster of inventors and entrepreneurs, from life sciences and healthcare, to defense, technology and clean energy, can both benefit from and sustain a robust dialogue with the USPTO.

As the USPTO is evaluating the locations for satellite offices, I encourage you to reach out to my office and learn more about how Massachusetts is
building the foundation for continued leadership of the U.S. innovation economy. I know that you have also heard from the leaders of Boston University, Northeastern, the University of Massachusetts, Harvard and MIT. Those world-class institutions are partnering with each other, the private sector and the Commonwealth in unprecedented ways.

I am confident that you will find our spirit of collaboration and commitment to excellence a unique and invaluable asset as you determine a location for the USPTO satellite office.

Sincerely,

[Signature]