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Docket: PTO-C-2020-0055
Request for Comments on Discretion to Institute Trials Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board

Comment On: PTO-C-2020-0055-0001
Discretion to Institute Trials Before the Patent Trial and Appeal Board

Document: PTO-C-2020-0055-0052
Comment from J. Dicer.

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General Comment

As a small inventor with issued patents, I live in fear of large companies ignoring my patents, copying my inventions, with no fear of consequences. They know I don't have the money to fight a PTAB case and they are counting on the fact that PTAP is on their side. The prices paid for patents have gone done significantly, even the useful, patents that may be infringed. Copying is much more economically feasible than paying for it, if the consequences are not there. Current PTAB process killed small inventor's ability to license or sell their inventions.

Patents are supposed to be protection for small inventors. But it works just the opposite now. I have no desire to spend the money to file for more patents, even with good inventions in the works.

You have to protect the inventors, which was the actual intent of the patent office. Current attitude of protecting large companies that pressure small inventors without the financial power to fight them, is far from the original intent. Small inventors can not pay for a legal team to fight off a PTAB process and lawyers aren't taking on contingency cases when most of the PTAB cases favor the large companies.

In the long run, the current Patent Office approach will significantly slow down innovation, as

small inventors, where a some of the innovation comes from, do not see much practical protection in patents. Where would the US technology and innovation would be if it wasn't for the startups?