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VIA E-mail satelliteoffices@uspto.gov

U.S. and International Intellectual Property Full-Service Intellectual Property Services Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights Searches and Prosecution Biotechnology Law Computer and Internet Law Art and Entertainment Law Trade Secrets and Policies Intellectual Property Litigation Licensing and Technology Commercialization Intellectual Property and Business Strategy Corporate and Commercial Transactions Venture Capital and Due Diligence

Mr. Azam Khan, Deputy Chief of Staff United States Patent and Trademark Office satelliteoffices@uspto.gov

RE: Satellite Patent and Trademark Office in Albuquerque, NM

Dear Mr. Khan:

I would like to strongly encourage the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to select the Albuquerque metro area for a new regional satellite patent and trademark office.

The USPTO and the State of New Mexico would both greatly benefit from the selection of Albuquerque as a location for a satellite office.

Creation of a satellite office in Albuquerque will help USPTO's efforts to recruit and retain a highly skilled workforce, reduce patent application pendency and improve quality while enhancing communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community.

Albuquerque, New Mexico, is a favorable and central location for a satellite office. Albuquerque will best serve the interests of the USPTO's employees, user community, and America's patent and trademark system, while ensuring geographic diversity among USPTO's offices.

Albuquerque has a highly technical skilled workforce. For example, the per capita number of PhD level scientists and engineers in New Mexico is the highest in the United States. Most of the scientists and engineers are in Albuquerque or surrounding areas. Sandia National Laboratories and the Air Force Research laboratories call Albuquerque home. Intel has a major facility in Albuquerque. The University of New Mexico main campus is located in Albuquerque. Los Alamos National Laboratory, New Mexico Tech, New Mexico State University and the White Sands Missile Test Range are all located near Albuquerque.

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The United States Patent Office roll of registered attorneys and agents show that 74 of registered attorneys and agents are located in Albuquerque and 113 of them are located in New Mexico.

In 2011, New Mexico inventors were awarded 557 United States Patents. New Mexico inventors have been awarded about 10,793 United States Patents in total. In 2011, Albuquerque inventors were awarded 285 United States Patents. Albuquerque inventors have been awarded about 5,556 United States Patents in total.

Albuquerque has great weather, a low cost of living, is highly diverse and lacks the traffic congestion that affects other major cities. Thus, Albuquerque is a highly favored place to live and work. The satellite patent office could easily be placed within a few minutes' drive from the Albuquerque Sunport airport for easy access to accommodate inventors, registered patent attorneys and patent agents that frequent the office for interviews with examiners. If selected, Albuquerque has the registered patent professionals to help the USPTO get an office opened and running very fast and effectively.

I sincerely hope that you will select Albuquerque as a site for a satellite office as I believe that Albuquerque would be very well suited for a satellite office.

If I may be of further assistance to you, please contact me.

Sincerely,

Samantha Updegraff Registration No. 60,139

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