



January 30, 2012

David J. Kappos
Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Under Secretary Kappos:

The Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority is proud to offer its support for a proposed United States Patent and Trademark Office to be located in Las Vegas.

While Las Vegas is widely known as a tourist destination, there are a number of advantages our destination provides for the location of Patent and Trademark Office. McCarran International Airport is among the busiest in the world and offers non-stop or direct access from more than 130 cities around the world on a daily basis. With the opening of the new Terminal 3, the destination will have the opportunity to continue to expand that reach, particularly to international cities.

Las Vegas is the No. 1 trade show destination in North America and we host approximately 20,000 meetings and conventions and more than 4.5 million delegates annually. Most of the large trade shows attract 15- to- 25 percent of their delegations from international destinations. These conventions provide direct access to some of the leading business minds in all fields, including technology, medical, automotive, and more.

Not only will Las Vegas provide a convenient location for these professionals to access the patent office, it will also provide patent examiners convenient access to some of the products they may be evaluating. Las Vegas has more than 150,000 hotel rooms and more than 10.6 million square feet of meeting and convention space, and we regularly host events by the leading corporations.

Awarding a U.S. Patent and Trade Office in Las Vegas has other advantages as well. We are centrally located in the western United States with affordable, convenient access to major cities like Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, Phoenix, and Seattle among others. Las Vegas has evolved to host people and events, providing an exceptional experience for business travelers who would visit the patent office.

If you have any questions, you may reach me at 702-892-2800.

Sincerely,


Rossi Ralenkotter