#### **Patent Public Advisory Committee Meeting**

#### **Software Partnership**



Drew Hirshfeld Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy March 14, 2013

- Two events: Silicon Valley, New York City
  - Listening sessions to accommodate as many speakers as possible
  - SV: 12 speakers, approximately 250 in audience (150 live, 100 webcast)
  - NYC: 14 speakers, approximately 200 in audience (120 live, 80 webcast)

- Diversity of Speakers
  - Law Professors
  - Patent Practitioners
  - Corporate Attorneys
  - Independent Software Developers; and
  - Software Coalitions

- Common Discussion Points
  - Potential for improvements:
    - 35 U.S.C. § 112, specifically paragraphs (a), (b) and (f)
    - Clarity of record
  - No software specific rules

• Next Steps

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- Written Comments
- Additional Partnership Meetings
- Examiner Training