

Gallagher, Tom

From: tom gallagher <tomgallagher@mac.com>
Sent: Sunday, February 26, 2012 3:37 PM
To: fee.setting
Subject: The Proposed fee Increases
Attachments: screenshot_01.jpeg; ATT00001.txt

It would appear that the purpose of the fee increases is to discourage the filing of patent applications and thus eventually diminish the huge backlog of pending applications. However, it will only discourage individuals and small businesses. Large companies will readily adjust and continue to fatten their patent portfolios.

Since many of the most innovative companies in the US started out as a couple of guys in a garage, these fee increases will discourage innovation and hamper the progress of the garage tech startups. It is particularly sad to see these huge fee increases implemented before the micro entity status is established.

I would suggest that you leave the small entity fees where they are and only raise the large entity fees. If congress lets you keep the money, you can hire more examiners.

But this isn't about hiring more examiners, is it? You could do that with the money you collect right now if congress let you keep it. This seems more like making patent ownership an exclusive club for the rich.

The largest corporation in the world was started by two guys in a garage. They patented seminal computer technology and continue to lead the world in computer technology. If they faced a \$920 filing fee for each patent application where would they be now? Remember they sold a Volkswagen Bus to raise capital.

When I first read the AIA, I opined (as many of my colleagues did) that this is going to hurt small business and independent inventors. Surely this proposed fee increase is another large nail in their coffin.

You have my permission to duplicate and/or publish this email.



**gallagher
intellectual
property
law**
www.tomgallagher.biz
203-329-9898

PRIVILEGE NOTICE: This electronic message transmission contains information which may be confidential or privileged. Correspondence between the sender and a client is subject to attorney-client privilege. The information is for the receipt and use by the intended recipient only. If you are not the intended recipient, be aware that the review, disclosure, copying, distribution or use of this information is prohibited. If you have received this electronic transmission in error, please notify us by telephone (203-329-9898) or by e-mail reply immediately.

COPYRIGHT NOTICE: The copyright laws of the U.S. (Title 17 U.S. Code) govern the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material (which includes the contents of this email). Note that in the case of electronic files, "reproduction" also includes forwarding the file by email to a third party. **You are not permitted to copy or forward the contents of this email without the author's permission.** If you do, you are in violation of the copyright laws of the United States and are subject to civil and criminal penalties.