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General Comment

I am grateful for this opportunity to respond to the request from the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) for comments regarding the USPTOs 2014 Interim Guidance on Patent Subject Matter Eligibility (Interim Eligibility Guidance) for use by USPTO personnel in determining subject matter eligibility under 35 U.S.C. 101 in view of recent decisions by the U.S. Supreme Court, specifically, *Alice Corp. Pty. Ltd. V. CLS Bank Intl*, 134 S.Ct. 2347 (2014).

I have worked as an intellectual property paralegal for the last 7 years and I have assisted patent attorneys with countless patent applications. Although I am not instrumental in drafting or prosecuting patent claims, I have assisted attorneys with numerous applications that would, in light of *Alice*, now be considered to be directed towards ineligible subject matter, specifically as it applies to applications whose claims limit a conventional computers operations to a particular field. These particular inventions did not improve the functioning of the computer itself, nor move the invention beyond generally linking the use of an abstract idea to a particular technological environment, but rather simply applied an abstract idea to a particular business environment. *Alice*, 134 S.Ct. 2347 (2014). Post-*Alice*, these same inventions would be considered unpatentable.

In view of *Alice*, I find that the Interim Eligibility Guidances flowchart, examples, and eligibility analysis will be very helpful in assisting examiners in determining subject matter eligibility under 35 U.S.C. 101. Not only will the Interim Eligibility Guidance assist examiners, but will also help patent attorneys when advising their clients as to the patentability of their

inventions and in carefully drafting claims.

I thank the USPTO for the opportunity to comment on the Interim Eligibility Guidance.