

Amos, Tanya

Trademark Legal Administrator, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Tanya Amos is an attorney in the USPTO's Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Trademark Administration. Tanya administers the Trademark Electronic Application System (TEAS) and is responsible for maintaining legal documents on the USPTO's internet and intranet websites. She provides expert policy guidance and support to employees on legal and procedural matters related to the filing and prosecution of trademark applications.

Previously, Tanya worked as an examining attorney where, in addition to examining applications, she mentored newly hired attorneys and participated in an electronic commerce work project to help automate the Office. Tanya received her law degree from the University of Oklahoma, College of Law and her undergraduate degree from Macalester College.

Anderson, Amber R.

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Amber graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Textile Engineering from North Carolina State University in 2007. She joined the United States Patent and Trademark Office in November 2007 and became a primary examiner in the technology field of Apparel in 2013. Amber has served on career development details at the Office of Patent Training as a Trainer for new patent examiners in the mechanical and chemical engineering fields. In November 2014, she was promoted to Supervisory Patent Examiner Trainer in the Office of Patent Training and has trained new patent examiners in the mechanical and chemical engineering fields as well as business methods. Currently, Amber is a Supervisory Patent Examiner and oversees patent examiners in the field of Offshore Oil Well Drilling as well as Hydraulic and Earth Engineering technologies. In her spare time, Amber enjoys creating stained glass and teaching glass fusing.

Ascolese, Lisa

Lisa Ascolese AKA THE INVENTRESS is a mentor, entrepreneur, keynote speaker, inventor & independent TV product agent. For more than 25 years, THE INVENTRESS has invented, marketed and launched products on QVC, HSN, EVINE Live and ShopNBC. She is the CEO and founder of Inventing A to Z and launched a non-profit, The Association of Women Inventors & Entrepreneurs, "AOWIE". She has appeared on Bravo TV, ABC and Sirius XM as well as major publications such as Black Enterprise Magazine, Ebony Magazine, Essence Magazine and The New York Times. Lisa's first product was The Bosom Buddy nursing cape followed by the Bun-Tie hair accessory, The Wrap And Store Organizer and The Perfect Pockets Organizer, which generated \$6,000 in less than six minutes on QVC.

Lisa is the daughter of a veteran, wife and mother who hails from Brooklyn, New York and graduated from Brooklyn College in Brooklyn, New York. She lives by the advice of her grandmother, "when you believe, you will achieve".

Blackwell, Gwendolyn

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Gwen Blackwell is a Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) in the Chemical and Material Engineering Technology Center 1700. Ms. Blackwell also delivers lectures to new examiners at the Patent Training Academy on various topics concerning effective patent examination processes. She has also completed a 9 month detail as a Resource SPE at the Elijah J. McCoy Midwest Regional Office located in Detroit, Michigan where she helped to develop the K-12 outreach program.

Ms. Blackwell began her career at the USPTO in December 2000 as an examiner in TC 1700, specifically addressing applications in areas such as semiconductors, nonstructural laminates, glass substrates with coatings, and artificial flora and fauna. In 2008, she became a Primary Examiner, allowing her to exercise independent judgment with regards to the applications upon which she worked. In January 2012 she was promoted to a Supervisory Patent Examiner and served as a Trainer for new examiners in the Patent Training Academy. She transitioned in the Fall of 2012 and began supervising an Art Unit of 13 examiners in TC 1700. She has worked in various parts of the USPTO, on temporary assignment, including periods at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, in the office of Patent Cooperation Treaty, and as a Training Assistant and Supervisory Patent Examiner at the Patent Training Academy.

Ms. Blackwell received a Bachelor of Science in Engineering in Chemical Engineering from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She also received a Juris Doctor from the University of Maryland at Baltimore.

Boveja, Namrata

Acting Deputy Director in the Office of Petitions, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Namrata Boveja is currently serving as an Acting Deputy Director of the Office of Petitions and as a Supervisory Patent Examiner for Art Unit 3682 in the Business Methods section of Technology Center 3600 at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). At the USPTO, Namrata has also served as an Appeals Specialist at the Patent Trial and Appeal Board assisting Administrative Patent Judges in drafting written opinions on appeals. Namrata is a licensed attorney in Maryland and the District of Columbia. Namrata has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and received her M.B.A. from the University of Maryland College Park. Additionally, Namrata received her J.D. from the University of District of Columbia.

Choi, Woo H.

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Mr. Choi graduated from City College of New York with a Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electrical Engineering. While working as an engineer for Computer Sciences Corporation on various military communications systems and GTE Spacenet on commercial telecommunications systems, he attended evening classes receiving M.S. E.E. from George Washington University and M.S. C.S. from George Mason University. Around mid-1990 he switched his career track from engineering to marketing, and worked as a technical marketing manager for GE/Gilat Spacenet and later, a product manager for Cable and Wireless USA and Lucent Technologies. He joined the USPTO in 2002 examining in class 711, Memory Architecture. After becoming a primary examiner, Mr. Choi attended evening classes at George Washington University Law School where he received his J.D. in 2010. In 2007 he joined the Central Reexamination Unit (CRU) as a detailee, and formally joined the unit six months later as Patent Reexamination Specialist. He is currently a Supervisory Patent Reexamination Specialist in the RU. He is married with two daughters.

Chriss, Andrew W.

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Andrew Chriss is a Supervisory Patent Examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in the Multiplexing area of Technology Center 2400, overseeing examination of applications related to wireless and wireline telecommunications. Prior to joining the USPTO, Andrew was an Associate at Booz Allen Hamilton, where he was responsible for leadership and delivery of timely and accurate analysis of public, proprietary, and classified telecommunications data sets. Andrew has a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from Georgia Tech and a Master of Science in Electrical and Computer Engineering from Johns Hopkins University. In his free time, Andrew enjoys playing music, practicing yoga, and running.

Donlon, Ryan

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Ryan Donlon is a Supervisory Patent Examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in the Businesses Methods Finance area of Technology center 3600. Prior to joining the USPTO, Ryan was a software developer for Vertex, Inc. where he developed backend payroll tax accounting software for large scale, human resource management systems. Ryan has also served four years as the Director of Finance for the Journal of the Patent and Trademark Office Society. He has a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science from Kutztown University and a Master of Business Administration from Villanova University. In his free time, Ryan enjoys volunteering with the National Park service and the Tree Stewards of Arlington and Alexandria, VA, to help maintain the Nation's tree canopy in the Washington DC metro region

Hattan, Susan B.

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Susan Bennett Hattan is a Supervisory Patent Examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in Technology Center 2900– Designs, overseeing examination of applications related to the ornamental design for articles of manufacture. The design patent protects only the appearance of an article, but not its structural or functional features. Prior to joining the USPTO, Susan practiced interior architectural design, space planning and project management in private practice and for several architectural firms in Washington D.C. Susan has a Bachelor of Science in Design from the University of Cincinnati, College of design, Architecture, Art and Planning. In her free time, Susan enjoys biking, beading, photography and dogs.

Kearney, Colleen

Attorney Advisor, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Ms. Kearney is an attorney in the Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Trademarks. Ms. Kearney handles Petitions to the Director, Letters of Protest, congressional inquiries, and is the primary legal advisor to the Electronic Filing & Public Web Services group, which includes providing legal guidance on all aspects of electronic prosecution. Prior to joining the Deputy Commissioner's staff, she was a trademark examining attorney. Ms. Kearney came to the USPTO in 2005 from the United States Copyright Office, where she focused on visual and performing arts copyright issues. She obtained her B.A. at American University and her J.D. from University of Baltimore School of Law.

Kelly, Heidi

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Heidi Riviere Kelley received a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from College of William and Mary. After receiving her degree she worked for a major oil refinery as an environmental specialist and managing supervisor of the onsite environmental laboratory. After her tenure at the refinery Mrs. Kelley went on to receive a Juris Doctor degree at the American University Washington College of Law. Once she obtained her law degree, she worked in private practice as an attorney in the areas of intellectual property and litigation. Since joining the USPTO, Mrs. Kelley has examined applications in business methods and was awarded the Bronze medal for superior federal service. Currently, Mrs. Kelley is a Supervisory Patent Examiner in the Chemical and Material arts Technology center at the USPTO where she supervises a staff of examiners in the areas of liquid and has purification systems. When she is not in the office she teaches yoga is working on her pottery skills.

Kim, Charles

Director of the Office of Petitions, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Charles Kim currently serves as the Director of the Office of Petitions at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). The Office of Petitions reviews and decides petitions, requests, and related inquiries regarding: the filing of patent applications, revival of abandoned applications, reinstatement of expired patents, withdrawal of patent applications from issue, small entity entitlement, review of previous decisions of the Technology Centers, suspension of regulations, and questions not specifically provided for by regulations. Prior to working at the Office of Petitions, Charles served for two years as a Senior Advisor to the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy. Charles also previously served as a Supervisory Patent Examiner in Technology Center 2100– Computer Architecture and Software. Charles has a B.S. degree in Electrical Engineering from Rutgers University and received his J.D. degree from George Washington University Law School.

Kolker, Daniel E.

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Daniel Kolker received a bachelor's degree in psychology from Vassar College in 1992. He worked as a technician in a small drug company in Cambridge MA for over two years, and then enrolled at Northwestern University's Institute for Neuroscience. He received a Ph.D. in neuroscience in 2001, and served as a post-doctoral fellow at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. Upon joining the USPTO as an examiner in TC1600, he examined patent applications in the fields of neurobiology, receptors, and cytokines. In 2012, he became a supervisory patent examiner (SPE) and currently oversees art unit 1644, which examines applications in immunology. As a supervisor he works closely with junior examiners in the art unit, and is an expert on patent subject matter eligibility, particularly in the biotechnology area. Dan lives in Washington, D.C. with his wife, two children, and dog

Koval, Melissa

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Melissa is currently the Supervisory Patent Examiner of Art Unit 2866, Electrical Measuring and Testing including MRI. She holds a B.S.E.E. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and an M.F.A. from New York University in Film and Television Production. She first joined USPTO in 1985 as a patent examiner in Group 360. During her time as a graduate student at NYU, Melissa worked as a Patent Agent. Melissa began her career in Technology Center 2800 in 2001 in the area of Projection Devices. After becoming a Primary Examiner in 2005, Melissa also examined cases in the area of Photography. Melissa received a Bronze Medal Award in 2008, an AIPLA Certificate of Recognition in 2009, 2011 USPTO Creativity and Innovation Challenge Finalist, and an Exceptional Career Award in 2013. In the Fall of 2016, Melissa graduated from The Partnership for Public Service's Excellence in Government Program as a Senior Fellow. Melissa currently resides in Alexandria with her family, including a cat and a lizard.

Landrum, Edward (Ned)

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

STEPP Program Manager, Patent Training Advisor, Office of Patent Training (OPT), Supervisory Patent Examiner, Technology Center 3700, United States Patent and Trademark Office. Mr. Landrum, or Ned for short, graduated from Worcester Polytechnic Institute with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in 2005 and from Virginia Tech with a Master of Business Administration degree in 2012. Ned joined the USPTO in 2005 as a patent examiner in cutting tools within TC 3700 and became a primary examiner in 2011. In 2012, Ned was hired as a Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) - Trainer in the Office of Patent Training (OPT) and in 2013 became a SPE in TC 3700. In 2016 he accepted a detail to become a Patent Training Advisor for OPT where he led the development of and is currently managing the Stakeholder Training on Examination Practice and Procedure (STEPP) program.

Levy, Michael

Senior Staff Attorney, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Michael Levy joined the Trademark Office in 1990. Mr. Levy graduated, with honors, from the Johns Hopkins University in 1986. He has a J.D. from the New York University School of Law and is a member of the Pennsylvania bar.

Mr. Levy was an Examining Attorney from 1990 to 1998. In 1998, Mr. Levy was promoted to the position of Supervisory Senior Attorney. As a Senior Attorney, Mr. Levy's duties include mentoring new Examining Attorneys, assisting Examining Attorneys on complex cases, improving quality of examination within the law office, and various management functions. Since 2012, Michael has been a Senior Staff Attorney in the Office of Trademark Quality Review and Training.

Magloire, Valdimir

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

After 11 years in the wireless industry Mr. Magloire joined the wireless telephony workgroup at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in 2007. While in the wireless industry he was part of the team that built and designed the Sprint PCS wireless network in New York. Valdimir became a Supervisory Patent Examiner in 2014. My wife and I have four boys and two grandchildren

Nguyen, Bao-Thuy

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Thuy Nguyen started her career at the USPTO in February of 1996. She graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a M.S. in Biotechnology and The University of Maryland at College Park with a B.S. in Microbiology. She was an Examiner in Art Unit 1641, Diagnostic and Specific Binding Assays and Related Devices, for 16 years before becoming a SPE trainer in the Office of Patent Training in March of 2012. In October of 2013, Thuy transitioned back to TC 1600 where she serves as the Supervisory Patent Examiner for Art Units 1677 and 1678. Currently, Thuy is on detail as a Patent Training Advisor with the Office of Patent Training. She resides in Fairfax, Virginia, with her husband and three children.

Nickerson, Jeffrey L.

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Jeffrey Nickerson is a Supervisory Patent Examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office in the Computer Networking area of Technology Center 2400. Jeffrey joined the USPTO in 2007 after graduating from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County with a B.S in Computer Engineering, and has examined Computer Networking patent applications since joining. Prior to the USPTO, Jeffrey worked as a private detective in Maryland and Virginia. He grew up on Maryland's eastern shore and enjoys hunting, crabbing, and training dogs.

Rosati, Brandon

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Brandon Rosati is a Supervisory Patent Examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in Technology Center 2900, the Design Patent area. Brandon has a wide range of experience at the USPTO, having begun his career as a Utility Examiner in the heat exchange area of Technology Center 3700. Brandon has served on numerous Career Detail opportunities within USPTO including in the Patent Training Academy and the Office of the Commissioner for Patents. Brandon has also served three years as the Vice President of the Patent and Trademark Office Society. Brandon has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from The Pennsylvania State University. In his free time, Brandon enjoys golfing and playing with his two young children.

Santiago-Cordero, Marivelisse (Mari)

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Marivelisse Santiago-Cordero graduated Summa Cum Laude from the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering. After graduating in 2004, she joined the USPTO as a patent examiner in the area of Telecommunications. Currently, Marivelisse is a Supervisory Patent Examiner in the Communications technology center at the USPTO where she supervises a staff of examiners in the areas of facsimile, printer, color, halftone and color, as well as examiners in the areas of digital audio data processing, linguistics, speech processing, and telecommunications. During her employment at the USPTO, Ms. Santiago-Cordero has been actively involved with the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) USPTO professional chapter, where she has been instrumental in the mentoring, development, and training of new patent examiners from all backgrounds, helping them become successful patent examiners, as well as in the chapter's success, helping the overall goals of the USPTO of increasing diversity within the Agency. In her spare time, Marivelisse enjoys spending time with her family, walking, and doing yoga. She currently resides in Woodbridge, VA with her husband and son.

Smith, Zandra

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Zandra Smith started at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in June 1996 as an examiner in Optical Measuring and Testing in Electrical Technology Center 2800. Prior to coming to USPTO, Zandra obtained a Bachelor of Science in Physics from Virginia Tech. In 2005 Zandra became a trainer in the Patent Training Academy and trained new examiners when they were hired into the Patent Office. Later that same year she became a Supervisory Patent Examiner (SPE) in the semiconductor art area, where she supervised more than 20 examiners who worked a variety of patent applications related to semiconductors and the method of making semiconductors. As a supervisor she has had the opportunity to work on several projects within the TC and the Patent Corps. The projects include being the TC lead of the Diversity Council which helps plan Community Day and the TC2800 annual Taste of the TC, which is a highly attended gathering where the various cultures within the TC have an opportunity to share unique foods and drink. Zandra has also worked on creating career development opportunities for the Patents Technical Support Staff and currently serves as the Transition Coordinator for TC2800 assisting new examiners in their move from the Training Academy to their home art unit. Zandra enjoys cooking, reading and good wine. She lives in Virginia with her kids and her dog.

Tuttle, Warren

President, United Inventors Association

Warren Tuttle is known to many throughout the industry as the long-time President of the United Inventors Association. Mr. Tuttle is also Open Innovation Director for both Lifetime Brands and Techtronic Industries NA. As Open Innovation Director, Tuttle focuses on external product development, which means he is constantly working with independent inventors to find new inventions to bring to market. Prior to developing and marketing products for the housewares industry, Mr. Tuttle owned 5 of his own gourmet specialty kitchenware stores (The Complete Kitchen of Southern CT), a prepared food and catering business (The Good Food Store of Darien, CT), a nationally recognized cooking school and a partnership in a kitchen design business. He speaks regularly around the country on licensing and open innovation at Inventor Clubs, industry trade shows, and US Patent Office functions. Mr. Tuttle has a B.A. from St. Lawrence University, and currently resides in Connecticut with his wife and three daughters.

Wilkerson, Sean

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Sean Wilkerson works in the Office of Innovation Development (OID) at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), creating intellectual property education programs and managing outreach services to independent inventors, small businesses, entrepreneurs, makers, and universities throughout the United States.

Prior to joining OID, Sean worked as an outreach coordinator for the training programs related to the opening of the USPTO Texas Regional Office. Sean also was a member of the New York engagement team that developed the 2015 Future of Urban Innovation Startups Summit in coordination with Columbia University and the USPTO. Sean served as the Program Manager from 2011 – 2013 to develop the program, structure and outreach of the inaugural Select USA Summit, a U.S. government-wide program to facilitate job-creating business investment into the United States with the International Trade Administration at the United States Department of Commerce. As an Education Program Analyst in the USPTO's Global Intellectual Property Academy, from 2008-2011, Sean managed international programs focused on providing intellectual property training related to the U.S. system for protecting and enforcing patents, trademarks, copyrights and trade secrets. Prior to working for the federal government, Sean served as the Director of Events for the National Association of Homebuilders in Washington, D.C. and served as the Ideas Exchange Manager for Accenture in Reston, VA.

Witz, Jean

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Jean Witz has worked for the United States Patent Office since 1988. She was born and raised in the Northern Virginia area. She attended George Washington University and received a B.S. in Biology in 1981 and an M.S. from George Washington University in Biology with emphasis in Ecology and Physiology in 1985. She received her J.D. from George Washington University Law School in 1994 and is a member of the Pennsylvania state bar. After receiving her masters, she worked for Battelle Laboratories and Hazelton Laboratories evaluating toxicity studies of drugs submitted for approval to the FDA. Upon joining the USPTO as a Patent Examiner in biotechnology, she examined a variety of applications covering subject matter as diverse as cosmetics to therapeutic treatments involving animal extracts, enzymes, and tissue and cell culture. In 2006, Jean was selected as the Appeals Specialist for Technology Center 1600, where she participated in all pre-appeal conferences as well as a large number of appeal conferences. In 2007, Jean became a Quality Assurance Specialist for TC 1600, where she prepared and presented numerous Technology Center training as well as providing presentations to PTO stakeholders. In 2015, she accepted a position as a Supervisory Patent Reexamination Specialist in the Central Reexamination Unit, where she supervises a group of examiners who review reexamination requests, supplemental examination requests and reissue applications in the areas of chemistry, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and chemical engineering. She also has over twenty-five years' experience teaching anatomy, physiology, microbiology, general biology and intellectual property at colleges both in North Carolina and in the Washington, DC metropolitan area. In her spare time, Jean enjoys hiking, biking, kayaking and golf.

Zecher, Cordelia

Supervisory Patent Examiner, United States Patent and Trademark Office

Cordelia (Dede) Zecher is a Supervisory Patent Examiner at the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in the network security and encryption area of Technology Center 2400. Prior to joining the USPTO, Dede worked at Dell, and for an IP Law Firm in Reston, Virginia. Dede has a Bachelor of Science in both Computer Science and Math from Vanderbilt University. Dede resides in McLean, Virginia with her husband and two children. She enjoys spending time with her family, running, practicing yoga, reading, and watching football in her spare time.