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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.