

From: [Michael Gallagher](#)
To: [TM FR Notices](#)
Subject: (PTO-T-2018-0021)
Date: Friday, February 15, 2019 2:35:22 PM

This proposed change is long overdue, and should be extended to patent prosecutions as well. The current situation gravely disadvantages American lawyers and is a disservice to clients as well.

Virtually every jurisdiction in the world bars non-citizen or non-resident legal practice. The USPTO does not. This makes it essentially impossible for us to get cases from most foreign firms, who simply file their own trademark applications, or use one of their own, patent-bar admitted non-Americans to file patent applications. For example, in 20 years, I have never been able to develop more than a handful of referrals from Canada, despite having to send dozen of patent and trademark cases to Canadian firms. I can't believe this is a real service to the clients, either. Someone whose U.S. IP practice is intermittent, and who's last daily experienced with U.S. law was when they graduated from an American law school 20 years ago, is not likely to render the highest quality service.

Time to level the playing field!

Michael J. Gallagher, Esq.
Registered Patent Attorney
Luper Neidenthal & Logan
1160 Dublin Road, Suite 400
Columbus, OH 43215
(614) 221-7663
Direct Dial/FAX: (614) 459-7769