

From: Derek Footer

Sent: Sunday, February 10, 2019 3:07 PM

To: Eligibility2019

Subject: Reject new guidelines on subject matter eligibility, Docket No. PTO-P-2018-0053

Dear Director Andre Iancu:

I urge the USPTO not to adopt the guidance on subject matter eligibility set forth in the Request for Comments, Docket No. PTO-P-2018-0053. Instead, the USPTO should provide guidance that ensures examiners apply the Supreme Court's *Alice v. CLS Bank* decision correctly.

The new guidance expands upon a small number of decisions finding patent claims eligible and ignores the far more numerous decisions in which courts have rejected claims as ineligible for patent protection. It distorts the law and will encourage examiners to grant invalid, abstract patents. Such patents wrongly claim basic ideas, increase litigation costs to no benefit, and harm the public interest.

The USPTO's role is not to narrow Supreme Court holdings, it is to apply them. Please abandon revisions to the Patent Subject Matter Eligibility Guidance.

Very truly yours,

Derek Footer