

**From:** Hugh Svendsen

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**To:** Eligibility2019

**Subject:** Comments on 2019 Revised Subject Matter Eligibility Guidance

My name is Hugh Svendsen and I write in support of Director Iancu efforts to clarify patent subject matter eligibility under 35 U.S.C. §101. I have been involved with the patent system at some level for 30 years working for large companies (Apple, IBM), startups (Flashpoint), and now as an individual inventor. My experiences in the patent system have been from several different perspectives including as an engineer, inventor (130+ US patents issued), patent agent, and technology investor. As such, I appreciate the value of predictability in the patent system. Unfortunately, this is something that has been lost over the past five years. Starting with the *Alice* decision, and continuing with multiple failed attempts to clarify subject matter eligibility, the Supreme Court has introduced considerable confusion as to what is actually patentable. As a result, inefficiency and unpredictability has been introduced at every level of the patent lifecycle. I applaud the fact that Director Iancu seems to recognize this issue. In a perfect world, Congress would step in and provide us with updated laws that would return balance to the system, but that is not the world we live in. Any relief from Congress seems years out, and it is far from certain that new legislation would represent an improvement. I therefore believe that Director Iancu's 2019 Updated Patent Eligible Guidelines represent our best and most timely opportunity to improve the situation.

Thank You,

Hugh B. Svendsen