

From: Benjamin C. Pierce [e-mail redacted]  
Sent: Sunday, September 26, 2010 9:26 PM  
To: Bilski\_Guidance  
Cc: licensing@fsf.org  
Subject: Against software patents

As a working academic researcher, I see firsthand the stifling effect that software patents have on innovation in my work and that of my colleagues. I have also been involved in two software patent lawsuits (as expert witness in one, prospective expert witness in the other) and have been astonished and dismayed at the low quality of the consideration that is, in practice, given to software patents. The system is badly broken.

I urge the USPTO take a strong stance against issuing further software patents in its forthcoming guidance following Bilski.

Sincerely,

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Pennsylvania