

Untitled

From: Jeff Grainger [e-mail address redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, December 14, 2011 6:58 PM
To: SatelliteOffices
Subject: Comments regarding proposed satellite offices

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to comment upon the locations to be selected for the remaining satellite offices mandated under the America Invents Act. It is my strong belief that one of these offices should be located in the Silicon Valley. I am a patent lawyer and have worked for start-up companies in Silicon Valley for 20 years. A quarter of all patents issued in the US last year were issued to California inventors. Silicon Valley is home to many of these inventors and the companies started by them, as well as a huge number of patent practitioners and some of the largest patent law firms in the country. Many California patent practitioners, including me, must make frequent trips to Alexandria for Examiner interviews and to attend meetings and other events associated with the USPTO. With the new First Action Interview program, and the favorable results which can be achieved through in-person interviewing generally, I see the need for these trips only increasing. Each of these trips costs an entire day devoted only to travel, plane fare, at least one night in a hotel, and meals. With so much of the PTO's work being done for patent applicants and practitioners in Silicon Valley, the savings in time and cost for applicants and practitioners which would result from placing an office here would undoubtedly surpass any other possible location in the country. I therefore urge you strongly to consider placement of one of the satellite offices in Silicon Valley.

Feel free to contact me by return email or by phone at [phone redacted].

Very truly yours,

Jeffrey J. Grainger
Managing Partner
The Foundry, LLC
www.thefoundry.com