



January 24, 2012

Via email: satelliteoffices@uspto.gov

To USPTO:

On behalf of Alavita Pharmaceuticals, we would like to express our support for a satellite patent office in Silicon Valley.

Establishing a regional office in Silicon Valley would facilitate reducing the number of pending patents in the system and enhance communication between the USPTO and the patent applicant community due to the availability of technology experts in the region and reducing travel time between applicants and examiners.

The biotech industry is completely dependent on patent protection and the research tools used by the industry and the academic research community are also highly dependent on patentability. Alavita and other companies I have co-founded spend an inordinate effort and expense to meet with examiners; because of the time and cost associated with travel to the east coast, we minimize those interactions in a non-favorable manner.

If a satellite office were to be located here, our company would also be able to partner with universities and the USPTO to help educate patent examiners on cutting edge technologies relevant to successful biomedical companies. We believe that collaboration between Silicon Valley inventors and the USPTO is vital to refining the patent application process overall and maximizing innovation nationwide.

Sincerely,

Gordon Ringold
Chairman and CEO