



[www.cvbi.org](http://www.cvbi.org)

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January 25, 2012

Director David Kappos  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Mail Stop Office of Under Secretary and Director  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Director Kappos,

In 2010, there were over 27,000 patents filed by Californians or California businesses, vastly more than any other state. **I would like to encourage you to select California for a new satellite office of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).**

By providing support to entrepreneurs and small business owners for the past 15-years, **Central Valley Business Incubator** is part of the economic fabric of the San Joaquin Valley. With documented successes in job creation and retention; business start-ups and technology development, CVBI has a proven record of the positive impact of innovation and entrepreneurship on local and regional economics.

California is home to top-ranked universities that produce highly-qualified engineers, scientists, and lawyers that could become employees of the USPTO. This California workforce will allow the USPTO to more rapidly examine applications while maintaining the highest standards for the review process. Many locations in the state of California meet your geographic criteria for a new office and are highly desirable areas to live and work.

**Central Valley Business Incubator-Small Business Development Center (CVBI-SBDC)** provides counseling, technical assistance and training to fledgling entrepreneurs, mid-stage businesses and seasoned companies. These efforts combined with partners **Fresno County Workforce Investment Board**, the **Small Business Administration** and the **UC Merced SBDC Regional Network** give businesses the tools and information they need to grow, strengthen and expand their operations (thus creating new businesses, jobs and capital), **many that require patents and trademarks.**

I hope you will consider all these factors and choose California for your next USPTO satellite office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chelsi Silva".

Chelsi Silva  
Central Valley Business Incubator, Inc.

