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Via E-mail
satelliteoffices@uspto.gov

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

RE: PTO-C-2011-0066 - Nationwide Workforce Program

Dear Director Kappos:

As the managing partner of the Colorado offices of Faegre Baker Daniels (“FBD”) and an intellectual property litigator, I am submitting this letter on behalf of FBD in support of the selection of Denver by the United States Patent and Trademark Office (“USPTO”) as the location for its next satellite office.

FBD has nearly 800 lawyers worldwide, including over 100 lawyers in Colorado. FBD has been an active participant in the Colorado IP community for over twenty years. Our professionals, paraprofessionals, and support staff include a significant number of individuals who work on matters directly before the USPTO examiners, from patents to trademarks, on a daily basis. Together, the FBD IP team serves clients nationwide and globally, small to large, who would benefit from having a satellite office located in Denver. A satellite office in Denver would offer better access for those smaller clients and/or those not located near either the Alexandria USPTO campus or the anticipated satellite office in Detroit – particularly significant in light of the changes to post-grant procedures contemplated by the AIA.

The entrepreneurial spirit is alive and well – and would be further nurtured by a satellite Patent Office – in Colorado. FBD’s IP clients include such companies of varying sizes with significant presences in Colorado, such as Crocs, Kiosk Information Systems, Cochlear Americas, Agrium,

Trimble Navigation, and Level 3, all of whom would benefit from having the USPTO maintain a regional presence in Colorado.

In addition, Denver has the work force, the technical backbone, and the quality of life to support the recruitment and retention of examiners, and other staff, to permit streamlined examination and alleviate some of the workload issues of current examiners. Denver is a highly desirable location and we are able to recruit highly talented individuals from around the country who seek a sophisticated city with a high quality of life and reasonable cost of living. And we have several major universities that all offer outstanding technical degree programs that will help educate and build the examiner workforce for years to come.

Thank you for providing the Colorado community with the opportunity to comment regarding the site of the next USPTO satellite office. We believe that Denver is the right choice for such an office, and we would be pleased to answer any further questions you may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natalie Hanlon-Leh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Natalie Hanlon-Leh
Denver Office Leader
Faegre Baker Daniels LLP

NHL:camdj