

JEDCO

Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission

January 10, 2012

Mr. Azam Khan – Deputy Director
USPTO Headquarters - Main Campus Address
Madison Buildings (East & West)
600 Dulany Street
Alexandria VA 22314

RE: Letter of Support for New Orleans Site, USPTO Satellite Office

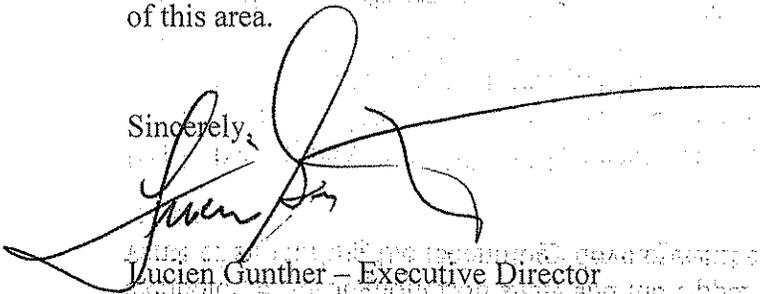
Dear Mr. Khan,

Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission (JEDCO) is an independent, yet complementary arm of Jefferson Parish government with the main objective of attracting, growing and creating new business in our area. JEDCO's mission proactively influences the economy through the retention and creation of quality jobs, entrepreneurship and investment in Jefferson Parish. It is committed to support successful commercial efforts of businesses, including companies and entrepreneurs that generate, patent and commercialize new technologies throughout Louisiana and the Upper Gulf Coast region. JEDCO recognizes the value of supporting the technology development community for the economic benefit of the region.

It is in that capacity that JEDCO is pleased to enthusiastically join with the Gulf Coast Patent Association's initiative to secure a USPTO satellite office in this Region. The addition of an office in the New Orleans Region, preferably Jefferson Parish, would accelerate the bringing life science and other technological advances to commercialization. The Region is fortunate to have strong local technical skills for a USPTO office staff; further, the Region has many universities that will not only provide support for patent investigation, but will provide an opportunity for entrepreneurial collaboration with academia and the private sector.

As the USPTO continues to pursue ways to improve its implementation performance, JEDCO believes that the selection of the New Orleans Region for a satellite office site will greatly contribute to that objective, as well as provide a catalyst for the much needed economic recovery of this area.

Sincerely,



Lucien Gunther – Executive Director
Jefferson Parish Economic Development Commission