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January 2, 2011

Azam Kahn, Deputy Chief of Staff
United States Patent & Trademark Office
Mail Stop Office of the Undersecretary & Director
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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

Dear Mr. Kahn:

We are writing as the co-directors of the Suffolk University Law School Intellectual Property Law Program, with the support of Dean Camille Nelson, to urge you to select Boston for a regional satellite USPTO office.

The Boston area is a superb choice for a USPTO satellite office for many reasons. Massachusetts is ranked first among all states in per capita patents granted (561 patents granted per million residents), and eastern Massachusetts is a leading center for intellectual property law and practice. A USPTO regional office in Boston would be located in a city with several leading law schools in the fields of patent law and IP. Suffolk Law School, Boston University, and Harvard each have nationally ranked intellectual property programs according to the U.S. News and World Report's 2011 survey. Suffolk University Law School is also a leading center for advanced legal studies in the field of intellectual property. Each year Suffolk organizes several all-day symposiums that review topic issues related to patent law and IP law generally.

In addition, your new satellite law office would have a rich pool of law students to select for internships, externships, and permanent employees. Suffolk's IP curriculum is extensive, featuring skills courses such as a Patent Litigation Seminar and Practice Before the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office, advanced electives such as International Intellectual Property, and traditional IP courses such as Copyright Law, Trademark Law, Trade Secrets, Internet Law, and Entertainment Law, all taught by our elite IP faculty whose internationally-recognized scholarship places them at the forefront of the legal academe. Our unique Patent Law

Specialization within our IP Concentration further allows us to offer the widest variety of patent-related courses in the region, and to train a significant number of patent attorneys.

Indeed, this course breadth and depth has contributed to our regional leadership in this area. In the summer of 2011, the Suffolk University Law School's IP program conducted a survey of patent lawyers working in the Boston area based on the Avery Index of Top Patent Firms in Boston.* Based on this study Suffolk was the top-ranked law school in training the largest number of individuals engaged in patent law practice. Suffolk graduates alone account for 149 patent law practitioners working in the Boston area. Harvard Law School was ranked second with 75 followed by Boston College with 66. Suffolk has the greatest number of patent attorneys and technical specialists with a Ph.D. — 66 in all who are practicing in Boston's top firms. This study only includes those attorneys working in the largest general service and boutique Boston law firms. A larger survey would likely demonstrate that the Boston area is a leading center for patent attorneys who attended Suffolk who practice in small and medium sized firms.

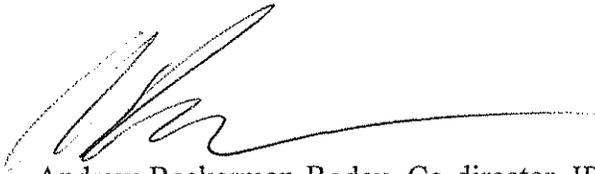
Additionally, on average at least 50 law students with hard science backgrounds attend Suffolk annually. Our evening division enables a large cohort of these students with a scientific or engineering background to be employed as patent agents or technology specialists during the day while attending Suffolk in the evening. Our evening program is highly regarded by the elite IP law firms in Boston who pay the full tuition of patent agents and technology specialists who attend Suffolk in the evening. This arrangement provides our students with a tremendous grounding in both academic and practical IP law, and gives them a distinct advantage for employment with both boutique intellectual property law firms and within the IP departments of elite law firms upon graduation. Employees in your regional office seeking law training could attend Suffolk's evening program.

Boston's location in the hub of one of the fastest growing biotechnology, software, and telecommunications centers in the country make it a natural choice for your regional office. Suffolk's recent prominence in patent law is in part due to its location in the heart of downtown Boston. In this specialized, rapidly growing area of law, high technology companies increasingly turn to Boston's patent law firms to protect their intangible intellectual property rights. Moreover, our study shows that Boston has a disproportionate number of patent lawyers who practice before the USPTO. As co-directors of one of this nation's most prominent programs in patent

* The Avery Index, (http://www.averyindex.com/patent_city_firms.php?city=Boston&st=MA), is a reliable and independent law firm ranking of patent lawyers in Boston's leading IP firms. The 10 largest Avery Index top patent law firms were: Boston's Fish and Richardson, P.C.; Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.; Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP; Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough LLP (formerly Lahive & Cockfield); Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP (now Edwards Wildman Palmer LLP); Goodwin Procter LLP; Ropes & Gray LLP; K & L Gates LLP; and Foley Hoag LLP.

law, we urge that you select Boston for your regional office. Thank you for considering our recommendation.

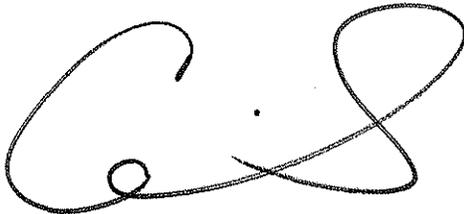
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew-Beckerman-Rodau". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Andrew-Beckerman-Rodau, Co-director, IP Law Program and Professor of Law

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Rustad". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Michael L. Rustad, Co-director, IP Law Program and Professor of Law

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Camille Nelson". The signature is highly stylized and cursive, with large loops.

Camille Nelson, Dean and Professor of Law

CC: Senator Scott Brown

CC: Senator John Kerry