

January 30, 2012

Via e-mail [satelliteoffices@uspto.gov]
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Satellite Office Comments

Re: *Selection of Austin, Texas as USPTO Satellite Office*
Comments of Fulbright & Jaworski, L.L.P.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the international law firm Fulbright & Jaworski to support the effort led by the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce to select Austin, Texas to host a satellite office for the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Established in Austin since 1978, our firm can testify to why the region is often called “the next Silicon Valley.” Fulbright has witnessed, through its many longstanding partnerships, the amazing individual leaders and pioneers in technology-development the city offers, along with world-class corporations such as Samsung Semiconductor, AMD, Freescale, National Instruments, Tokyo Electron, Applied Materials, Silicon Labs, and a host of software companies which would be served by a future Patent Office in Austin.

A partnership of healthcare providers and community leaders, together with the University of Texas System Board of Regents, is also positioning Austin as a future hub of biotechnology development, in addition to existing Austin-based innovators such as Hanger Orthopedic Group, the world's leading provider of prosthetics and orthopedics.

The scientific and economic infrastructure to justify an office in Austin is in place, as is the professional support. We want to emphasize how Fulbright—and other law firms in our region—can offer pro bono opportunities, intellectual property education, and support to a satellite Patent Office in Austin.

Fulbright is a large international firm, founded in 1919, recognized for its leadership and service to the community. It is also the largest intellectual property practice in Austin, as ranked by the *Austin Business Journal*. Among the 17 Fulbright locations worldwide, Austin-based Fulbright intellectual property lawyers represent a unique concentration of leadership in the national and global Intellectual Property community:

- ⤴ Partner David Parker is co-head for the global Intellectual Property and Technology Department at Fulbright, ranked by Chambers Global in 2010 as a leading firm in Intellectual Property in the US.
- ⤴ Partner Michael Metteauer is a long standing board member and current counsel at the International Trademark Association (INTA).
- ⤴ Partner Michael Barrett is a long standing board member and incoming president of the Austin Intellectual Property Law Association.
- ⤴ Partner Mark Wilson is a leader and frequent speaker representing the Fédération Internationale des Conseils en Propriété Industrielle (FICPI).
- ⤴ Partner Gina Shishima is Southwest Regional Governor of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA).

The partners and firm would be committed to supporting a Patent Office in Austin in every appropriate way.

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Austin would provide an excellent environment for a satellite Patent Office, and Fulbright would welcome such an office and provide whatever support possible to ensure that it would thrive and succeed. For example, our strong IP practice and commitment to pro bono and education would bolster the Patent Office's presence. Thank you for your consideration, and please contact me if we can provide any additional information.

Sincerely,

FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI, L.L.P

/s/ Butch Hayes

Sherrard Lee (Butch) Hayes II
Partner-in-Charge, Austin