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From: Sarvesh J. Nadkarni [e-mail address redacted]  
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 10:41 PM  
To: SatelliteOffices  
Subject: Future USPTO Satellite Office: Austin, TX

To Whom It May Concern:

Austin would be an exceptional location for one of the proposed USPTO Satellite Offices. With an abundance of technology companies, geographic advantages, large talent pool of engineers, scientists and patent practitioners, and an unbeatable quality of life, Austin proves to be an excellent location for a Satellite Office.

Austin boasts a commanding presence of high tech companies including Dell, Samsung, Applied Materials, Cypress Semiconductor, Freescale, IBM, 3M, Cirrus Logic, Cisco Systems, National Instruments, AMD, Hewlett-Packard, Texas Instruments, and more recently, Facebook and Google. As such, Austin has been fondly dubbed "Silicon Hills" drawing its high tech similarities with and second only to California's Silicon Valley. Furthermore, the city promotes start ups and small businesses as a cornerstone of its cultural and business philosophy to "Keep Austin Weird." Annually, the city hosts the South By Southwest (SXSW) technology trade show, a spring board for start ups that has helped launch some notable companies including Foursquare and Twitter. Austin is also a hub to dozens of pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Clearly these companies and the numerous burgeoning start ups and small businesses would immeasurably benefit from a Patent Office presence in Austin.

Geographically, Austin is accessible for so many patent, engineering and science professionals. Austin is less than a three hour drive away from three of the nation's largest cities, Dallas/Fort Worth, Houston, and San Antonio, all of which are home to many technology and fortune 500 companies and numerous patent practitioners. These cities would benefit tremendously from a Patent Office presence centrally located in the state. Furthermore, the city would serve as an excellent geographic midpoint for the country, being roughly 3 hours away by flight to either coast and the Midwest. Such geographic proximity and accessibility would prove beneficial to patent practitioners, hoteling patent examiners, and technology companies in virtually every part of the country.

Furthermore, Austin is home to the University of Texas, an internationally recognized research facility with equally impressive graduate and undergraduate science and engineering programs. Additionally, Texas is home to many other ranked science and engineering programs including the University of Houston, Texas A&M University, the University of Texas at San Antonio, and the University of Texas at Dallas. UT-Austin and University of Houston's law schools are consistently ranked as two of the top ten Intellectual Property Law programs in the nation. A Satellite Office in Austin would have access to this talent pool, and mutually, the research and innovation produced by these universities would also benefit from access to an Austin Satellite Office.

Beyond the abundance of tech companies throughout the state, the geographical advantages of the city, and the talent pool of engineers, scientists and lawyers, Austin is simply an amazing place to live, work and play. The city is currently undergoing an urban revitalization including projects to expand urban housing and public transportation with light rail reaching out to the airport and to the suburbs. Austin has been noted as one of the best places to start a career, raise a family and retire. With low taxes, great public schools, low cost of living, beautiful weather year round - nearly 300 days of sunshine, a vibrant nightlife, and an inviting culture of creativity and innovation all while maintaining a family-friendly atmosphere, young professionals, businesses and families who move to Austin tend to stay, making Austin a perfect home for one of the USPTO's Satellite Offices.

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,  
Sarvesh J. Nadkarni

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