

January 30, 2012

VIA E-MAIL: *SATELLITEOFFICES@USPTO.GOV*

Azam Khan
Deputy Chief of Staff
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop Office of Under Secretary and Director
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: *U.S.P.T.O Satellite Office*

Dear Mr. Khan:

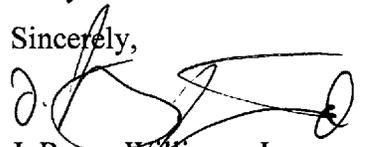
As a patent lawyer, a member of the Austin Intellectual Property Law Association, and a lifelong Austinite, I urge the Patent and Trademark Office to select Austin as one of the satellite office locations. What I want you to consider is this: Austin is a magnet for college graduates and professionals settling down to raise a family. If the PTO wants a satellite office that will draw Examiner candidates from all over the country and keep them there, Austin is the place.

I have lived in two other cities as an adult: Portland, Oregon, where I attended college, and Arlington, Virginia, while I worked in Washington in my first job out of law school. I returned to Austin to begin life after college, and my wife and I returned to Austin from the DC area so we could raise our family in Austin. I loved both Portland and Arlington, each was a great city for livability, but neither could hold a candle to Austin for quality of life.

My experience is not unique. I have interviewed dozens of bright, creative and well-credentialed young lawyers looking for jobs in Austin. Many of these are willing to take a pay cut (over what they could get in other cities) to live in Austin; and the Texas State government is full of people who could earn more in another city but choose to live in Austin. In short, I think locating a satellite office in Austin would do wonders for the PTO attrition rate.

Please call me if you have any questions. Thank you.

Sincerely,



J. Roger Williams, Jr.