Ms. Fawcett,

Please consider my comments below.

I first note for the record that I personally am averaging 1 appeal a month, at least for the last year, and looking forward anticipate this to increase to 15/year this year.

Regarding the collection of information:

Appeal Briefs - our experience to date suggests that 30 hours must be for a very small application with very few claims. Our briefs ON AVERAGE take 71 hours each. Our low was 35 hours and our longest was over 150 hours.


Petition to Increase Page Limit - 15 hours. About right.

Reply Briefs - 5 hours. WAY OFF BASE. Here's what happens, the Examiner states a new ground and/or new arguments almost universally. This necessitates an entirely new reply that takes 80% as long as the original. 20% is saved in evidence, summary of the invention, etc. SO, reply briefs average about 55 hours.

Requests for Rehearing Before the BPAI - 5 hours. About right.

Our estimate of the time is: 158 hours or about a month, which is pretty much what it works out to. (Your estimate is 70 hours which we consider at least 2x low.)

Using your estimated annual responses (which we think are low) our estimates in table form are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Estimated time</th>
<th>Estimated annual responses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Appeal Briefs</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>23,145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petition for Extension of Time for Filing Paper After Brief</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>2,298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Petition to Increase Page Limit</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1,315</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rely Briefs</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>4,947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requests for Rehearing Before the BPAI</td>
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<td>Total</td>
<td>1,963,296</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(1)
Basically 2 million hours.

Contact me if you have any questions.

Regards,

Alan Heimlich
Reg 48808

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Thank you.
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