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From: George

Sent: Saturday, April 22, 2006 1:10 AM

To: DDP.Comments

Subject: Elimination of the Document Disclosure Program

Dear Ms. Kirik

I am not in favor of eliminating subject Program, as I think that it serves a vital purpose. I am an independent inventor and have used the Program many times. I think that the Program should remain unaltered for the following reasons.

1. Many inventors, like myself, do not keep a fully documented, updated, and witnessed inventor's notebook, as we should, and therefore, rely on subject Program to provide official evidence of the existence, ownership, and date of origin of our inventions.

2. A provisional patent should not be considered as a replacement for subject Program because it is only good for 1 year and many independent inventors cannot file a non-provisional patent application within this time period for numerous reasons and circumstances. Also, the provisional patent application is significantly more expensive than subject Program. Many patent attorneys charge in excess of \$2,000 to prepare a provisional patent application which many independent inventors cannot afford at the conception of an invention when there are numerous uncertainties about the outcome of the invention. The provisional patent application requires significantly more information and detail than subject Program and therefore, results in valuable time being wasted to document the invention.

3. Why penalize inventors that utilize subject Program for its intended purpose just because other inventors do not have the desire to find out what subject Program is about or are presumptuous about its use.

I know that I speak for many independent inventors when say that I sincerely hope that subject Program is not canceled for the above and other numerous reasons.

George Burkhardt