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**From:** Margaret Knapp

**Sent:** Monday, May 08, 2006 11:03 AM

**To:** DDP.Comments

**Subject:** Please do not eliminate the DDP

I am writing to express my opposition to the call for elimination of the Disclosure Document Program (DDP).

DDP should never be eliminated for as long as United States remains a first-to-invent country. USPTO reasons for elimination are not well founded because actual benefit from DDP is subjective to measure. The benefits of filing a provisional cannot be compared as an alternative to the DDP, because the benefit of constructive reduction to practice is the same regardless of which type of patent application is filed.

Eliminating the DDP places a greater burden upon an inventor to establish evidence of conception of an invention and may force the inventor to disclose the concept of the invention to a third party for corroboration. Inventor should have the right to use Government as witness through the DDP without relying upon a third party for corroboration.