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**From:** Leichter, Casey

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 11, 2005 6:53 PM

**To:** AB85 Comments

**Subject:** "Limited Recognition" - Applies to paralegals?

Does the new "Provisions for Persons Granted Limited Recognition to Prosecute Patent Applications and Other Miscellaneous Matters" apply to paralegals filing routine, non-argued documents such as Assignments and Responses to Missing Parts?

If not, I would like to request the USPTO consider creating such a category.

Paralegals often work entirely independently on the preparation, completion and filing of such routine matters as Assignments, Responses to Missing Parts, and Issue Fee Payments.

Paralegals also prepare and file Information Disclosure Statements (IDS). Though IDSs do require a person skilled in the art and/or a patent attorney/agent to review and approve the art submitted in an IDS, the filing of the IDS itself does not entail legally/technologically substantive arguments; merely the correct filing out of the necessary forms and including copies of the necessary references.

In tasks such as filing of formal documentation, Responses to Missing Parts, and filing of IDSs - that is, tasks that do not require legally/technologically substantive arguments - I believe it makes sense to let paralegals have the authority to file such documents over their own signatures. I believe a sense of professional due diligence might be satisfied by requiring the paralegal's employer to sign an Authorization Form, similar to that already used as an adjunct to the Power of Attorney.

Thank you for your consideration.

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