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An Intellectual Property Law Firm

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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

Dear Mr. Khan,

Cochran Freund & Young LLC is a firm whose members collectively have over 100 years of experience in all facets of IP law and would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment regarding the potential locations of satellite offices of the USPTO, based on the Notice from the USPTO on November 29, 2011. Cochran Freund & Young LLC strongly believes and supports Colorado as the perfect location for a satellite office of the USPTO due to: 1. the geographically central location of Colorado with the central and western regions of the United States; 2. the strong academic and patent history of Colorado; as well as 3. the unique opportunity for Colorado that would create a huge boost to Colorado's economy.

The USPTO has stated that when considering where to establish the new satellite offices, a number of critical criteria that must be considered, including: the geographic diversity of the area where the office will be located; the high percentage of scientists and engineers in the workforce; the ability of the area to provide access to major research institutions, particularly leading universities; the abilities of the area to support a high volume of patenting activity; and if there are significant numbers of patent agents and attorneys in the area.

Denver would be the perfect location for a satellite office due to the large number of scientists and engineers that work throughout the Front Range in high-tech industries. The Colorado area is full of top-notch research universities and laboratories such as the University of Colorado (Boulder, Colorado), Colorado State University (Fort Collins, Colorado), University of Denver (Denver, Colorado), Colorado School of Mines (Golden, Colorado), University of Wyoming (Laramie, Wyoming), Colorado College (Colorado Springs, Colorado) and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (Golden, Colorado). Adding a satellite office of the USPTO in Denver would only strengthen the ability of these research centers to attract researchers and funding.

Additionally, one of the USPTO's main reasons to open satellite offices is to aid in recruiting and retaining patent examiners. Denver easily fits this need due to the large number of highly educated scientists and engineers located in the area from which the USPTO could draw while also providing the ability to attract desirable candidates from around the U.S.

Colorado has a rich inventive history and has had a high volume of patent activity through the years. There are currently over 700 registered patent attorneys and patent agents in Colorado. With the addition of a satellite office in Denver, the additional patent activity will only increase with the number of patent attorneys and high-tech companies in the area.

A satellite office in Denver would make sense for the USPTO and Colorado. Colorado is already an economic hub for the central, mountain and western regions of the United States and has one of the busiest airports in the United States with quick flights to and from the West Coast and throughout the Midwest as well as non-stop flights to and from Washington, D.C. Bringing a satellite office to the area would only increase the influx of business to the area by providing attorneys and inventors quick and easy access to the USPTO without the need, time and cost of flying to Washington, D.C.

A USPTO satellite office would be a shot in the arm for Colorado's economy. A satellite office would reportedly bring in at least 100 patent examiners to Colorado, which doesn't even include the administrative and support staff needed to support 100 patent examiners. A satellite office would not only bring new jobs to the new USPTO office, but would also attract law firms from across the nation to open offices in the Denver area while also attracting technology companies to the Colorado front range.

Many of the citizens of Colorado have worked hard to bring this opportunity to Colorado, from Senators Michael Bennet and Mark Udall, Representatives Diana DeGette and Mike Coffman, Governor John Hickenlooper and the City of Denver Mayor Michael Hancock, the Presidents/Chancellors for the Colorado School of Mines, Colorado State University, University of Denver and University of Colorado and the members of the Colorado Bar Intellectual Property association. The citizens of Colorado obviously support the potential of a USPTO satellite office located in Denver. Cochran Freund & Young LLC strongly believes and supports Colorado as the perfect location for a satellite office of the USPTO.

Thank you for this opportunity.

Best Regards,



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