



January 30, 2012

Mr. Azam Khan
Deputy Chief of Staff
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Mailstop Office of Undersecretary and Director
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Docket Number PTO-C-2011-0066, Nationwide Workforce Program

Dear Mr. Khan:

Genzyme appreciates the opportunity to provide comments in support of a satellite office of the United States Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) in Boston, Massachusetts.

Genzyme is one of the world's leading biotechnology companies. Its approximately 10,000 employees work in countries throughout the world and are united by a common goal: to make a major positive impact on the lives of people with debilitating diseases. Genzyme is a Sanofi company.

Since its founding in Boston Massachusetts in 1981, Genzyme has grown from a small start-up to a diversified enterprise with 2011 revenues of \$4.05 billion. Over the past three decades Genzyme has introduced a number of breakthrough treatments in several areas of medicine, which have provided hope to patients who previously had no viable treatment options. Genzyme products are helping patients in 100 countries.

Today, Genzyme continues to be driven by its commitment to patients. The company is working to develop new medicines, improve its existing therapies, secure approvals for its products around the world, and ensure that patients have access to these treatments.

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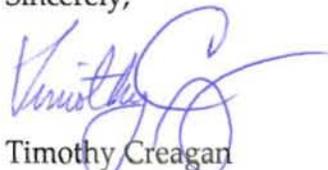
Genzyme focuses on the following broad areas of medicine: Personalized Genetic Health, Renal and Endocrinology, Hematology and Oncology, and Biosurgery. Much of Genzyme's Research and Development and Manufacturing efforts are based in Massachusetts. The company maintains its headquarters in Kendall Square, Cambridge, Massachusetts and has R&D and Manufacturing sites located in Allston, Framingham, Waltham and Cambridge Massachusetts. Today, the Company has approximately 4,500 employees in the Greater Boston area. As a leading Massachusetts employer, our Company knows first-hand the benefits that the attractive employment environment of Massachusetts would offer the PTO. Massachusetts cities and towns populate the highest rankings for quality of life, one of many factors that contribute to Massachusetts' leadership among nationwide employee retention rates.

Genzyme, also, appreciates the value to be gained by strong ties to the vibrant inventor, academic and venture environment found uniquely in Massachusetts. We are joined in the region by world-class research and teaching universities, hospitals and institutions, and law schools, such as MIT, Harvard University, Boston College, Boston University, Tufts, Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering and Babson College. The area is also home to a diversity of innovative industries, such as life sciences, software, communications, energy and electrical/optical engineering. The region has received billions of dollars and ranks at or near the top among states for funding from the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, NASA, the Department of Defense and the Small Business Administration's SBIR program.

As a result, Massachusetts is also at or near the top in overall patents issued, patents per capita, percentage of venture capital investment in the country and has the highest per-capita number of patent professionals outside of the Greater Washington, DC area. This rich tradition of strong intellectual property infrastructure is a hallmark of our region and would certainly serve as a strong pool of interested, high-quality candidates for employment with the PTO in Boston.

For all of these reasons, Boston is a natural location for a satellite office of the United States Patent and Trademark Office. On behalf of Genzyme, we strongly urge you to consider Boston and are happy to discuss our comments further.

Sincerely,



Timothy Creagan
Vice President, Intellectual Property