

January 30, 2012

To: satelliteoffices@uspto.gov

From: Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce

Re: Nationwide Workforce Program

United States Patent and Trademark Office
Attn: Azam Khan, Deputy Chief of Staff
Mail Stop - Office of Undersecretary and Director
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**Re: Comments on Additional USPTO Satellite Offices for the
Nationwide Workforce Program (Docket No. PTO-C-2011-0066)**

Dear Mr. Kahn:

The Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce, which represents 2,300 businesses in the Capital Region who collectively employ more than 105,000 employees, strongly supports locating the next United States Patent and Trademark Office's satellite office in New York's Capital Region.

The Capital Region has long been known for its diverse economy, and efforts in the past decade to grow our technology sector are really paying dividends. Our region is no stranger to innovation, from the ages of the Industrial Revolution to its emergence today as an internationally respected technology hub. We have emerged as Tech Valley, a vibrant region in a competitive world. The region is committed to increasing economic prosperity and the quality of life through focused goals for business growth and marketing; workforce recruitment and retention; quality higher education options; and diversified cultural activities.

Recent awards include:

- "Fastest Growing High-Tech Job Markets in the Country," Albany, 3rd (TechAmerica Foundation)
- "America's Most Innovative Cities," Albany, 15th (Forbes)
- "Best Markets for Young Adults," (Portfolio.com)
- "Best Cities for Job Growth/Medium Cities," Albany-Schenectady-Troy, 17th (New Geography)
- "Strongest Performing Metro Areas," Albany, Among top 21 (Brookings)
- "America's Best Places to Raise a Family," (Forbes)

A satellite office in the Capital Region would increase outreach activities to better connect the growing technology industry in the region with inventors and patent filers. This would help streamline the application process and decrease the number of patent applications waiting examination.

Given that so much of our future prosperity is dependent on the technology industry and its research, it is important to have the proper partners situated locally to continue the momentum this region enjoys today. For these reasons, the Albany-Colonie Regional Chamber of Commerce enthusiastically supports the location of the USPTO Satellite Office in the Capital Region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark N. Eagan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mark" and last name "Eagan" clearly distinguishable.

Mark N. Eagan, CCE
President and CEO