

January 27, 2012

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

Re: Letter in Support of the City of Houston's Proposal for a Satellite PTO Office

Dear Mr. Khan:

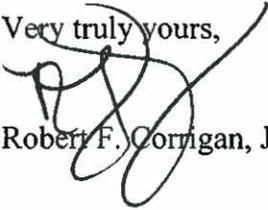
Located in the largest medical center in the world, Baylor College of Medicine ("BCM"), is one of the top medical schools in the USA, ranked by the National Science Foundation as number 2 in the nation for research and development in the biological sciences, and having a total research support of over \$400 million. Having close to 4,000 faculty and 3,000 trainees, BCM is the only private medical school in the greater southwest, and has more than 90 research and patient-care centers.

Because of its robust research enterprise, BCM has an active patenting and technology transfer history managed by its world-famous Baylor Licensing Group and wholly owned venture capital firm, BCM Technologies, Inc. There are over 200 diagnostic, clinical and research products on the market due to BCM's active technology transfer enterprise. In the past ten years, BCM has acquired approximately 154 US patents and has filed approximately 561 applications.

BCM offers a course on intellectual property to its Ph.D graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. Many of those students take the course in anticipation of following a career path in technology transfer or patent law. Some have become patent lawyers and agents. We are aware of one who moved to the Washington, DC area to serve as a patent examiner, and strongly believe that many others would follow the examiner career path if a satellite office were to be located in Houston.

We hope that the USPTO will give prime consideration to locating a satellite office in Houston, especially considering the strong biomedical and biotechnological expertise and resources located in this city.

Very truly yours,


Robert F. Corrigan, Jr.