

## COLORADO ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

The State Chamber of Commerce

Chuck Berry CACI President and CEO

January 18, 2012

Director David Kappos U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Director Kappos:

I am writing on behalf of the Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry (CACI) to urge you to select Colorado as a satellite location for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office. As you know, Colorado's U.S. Senators were strong proponents of the provision in the America Invents Act that requires satellite offices to be established. At CACI, we are equally enthusiastic about the prospect of more expeditious processing of patent applications and more convenient access to patent examiners. We believe strongly that this will reinvigorate the U.S. economy, and that Colorado is an ideal location to support improved patent processing across a broad region.

<u>Colorado is accessible</u>. Denver's airport is the largest international airport by size in the United States and was the fifth busiest airport in the world in 2010. Our central location makes it possible to fly in, conduct business, and fly out the same day. Locating a USTPO satellite office in Colorado would enable businesses and inventors throughout much of the U.S. to access patent services efficiently.

Colorado has a capable, available workforce for patent work. Our strong system of higher education includes the University of Colorado, Colorado State University, Colorado School of Mines, and Anschutz Medical Center. They produce well-educated graduates skilled in the technical fields your agency will require. A stable cost-of-living and the many attractions of living at the foot of the Rocky Mountains enhance your ability to attract and retain qualified staff with specialized skills.

<u>Colorado is a hub of innovation</u>. The Edward Lowe Foundation identifies Colorado as a hub of growth-oriented businesses in a wide variety of manufacturing and technology fields. They represent innovation in medicine, biotechnology, aerospace, information technology, and biofuels, among many others. These are precisely the kinds of businesses that will both drive economic recovery in the U.S. and require timely patent services to do so.

<u>Colorado is a business hub.</u> Many national and international companies already gravitate to Colorado. Whether they need a U.S. headquarters or a western regional office, these companies recognize the strengths Colorado offers. Their presence here means that companies from around the U.S. and the globe would take advantage of a USTPO satellite office in Colorado for their U.S. patent needs.

The Colorado Association of Commerce and Industry represents 450 members, including 23 trade associations and 43 local chambers of commerce.

Colorado businesses will not only make USTPO welcome, we will contribute to its success and to its positive impact on our nation's economy.

Yours truly.

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