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Mr. Azam Khan Deputy Chief of Staff United states Patent and Trademark Office Mail Stop Office of Undersecretary and Director PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## Ref: PTO-C-2011-0066; Nationwide Workforce Program

Dear Deputy Chief of Staff Khan:

Section 23 of the America Invents Act (AIA) of 2011 requires the Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to establish three satellite offices to carry out its responsibilities. As the Chief Financial Officer of a NASDAQ-listed, Massachusetts-headquartered, leading targeted immunotherapy company, I am writing to encourage USPTO to select Massachusetts as one of the locations for a regional satellite office.

Celldex Therapeutics, Inc. (Celldex) owns or licenses rights under more than 400 granted patents and national and regional patent applications around the world covering inventions relating to our business. Celldex relies heavily on its patent portfolio to protect its research and development programs and intellectual property assets. A locally-based USPTO office would provide more timely and high-quality patent examinations for Celldex's expanding patent portfolio.

Massachusetts is a world leader in life science and biotechnology research and a regional satellite office in Massachusetts would certainly benefit this important, dynamic growth industry. Massachusetts is also the home to world-class universities, colleges and medical research centers from which USPTO could recruit talented patent examiners.

I strongly urge USPTO to consider Massachusetts as the location for its next satellite office.

Singerely, Avery W. Catlin

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

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