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From: Vicki Mora [e-mail address redacted] Sent: Wednesday, January 18, 2012 5:30 PM

To: SatelliteOffices Cc: [e-mail address redacted]

Subject: AGC Supports USPTO Al buquerque Office

AGC-NM Supports ABQ for Regional USPTO Office

January 19, 2012

Mr. Azam Khan Deputy Chief of Staff United States Patent and Trademark Office Dear Mr. Khan,

On behalf of the Board of Directors and Members of AGC-NM Building Branch, we are writing to strongly encourage the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) to select the Albuquerque metro area for a new regional satellite patent and trademark office.

By locating this office in the heart of New Mexico, the USPTO will benefit from the highly skilled workforce that is well documented in our state. In addition this key location would provide convenient access to the USPTO's resources and services to entrepreneurs and innovators also abundant in our region. The USPTO, our welcoming business community and the patent applicant community would mutually benefit from an office in this strategic southwest location.

With a satellite office in Albuquerque, the USPTO will be able to increase outreach activities to better connect patent filers and innovators with the USPTO, including the number of patent filings and grants from the entire Southwest region. The USPTO will also be able to enhance its recruitment and retention of patent examiners through the high level of professionals drawn to our state for the strong university engineering programs, acclaimed research labs, and important quality and cost of living factors. Our state is well-known for developing and attracting the top legal, science and technology professionals, as well as other professionals related to the work of the USPTO.

A regional office in Albuquerque will provide the USPTO with countless advantages. We greatly appreciate the USPTO's consideration of our metro area for a regional satellite office and know you will benefit greatly from all that our city and state have to offer.

Si ncerel y,

Lawrence Franken Franken Construction Building Branch, AGC Board President, AGC-NM Building Branch

Vicki Mora CEO, NM

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