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January 30, 2012

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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

Sent via email: satelliteoffices@uspto.gov

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

Dear Mr. Khan:

I write to you as a former USPTO patent examiner, and now the managing partner of the largest IP law firm in upstate New York and the Chair of the Technology Executive Council for the Center for Economic Growth (CEG) in Albany, NY.

It is with great enthusiasm that I fully support and endorse the comments submitted by my colleague Annette Kahler and many others proposing **Albany, NY and the Capital Region of New York State** as an ideal location for a future USPTO satellite office.

While studying at George Washington University Law School I began my career in patent law as an examiner with the USPTO. The experience that I received was unparalleled and prepared me for a long and successful career in intellectual property. Due to my personal experience as a patent examiner, I believe strongly that nationalizing the USPTO workforce through the opening of satellite offices will greatly benefit the entire patent system, and that the Albany/Capital Region of New York is an ideal site.

The Capital Region which is home to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, the oldest technological university in the US, the Global Research Center of General Electric, the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering that houses the most advanced 200mm/300mm wafer facilities in the academic world and recently attracted Sematech, the semiconductor industry R&D consortium, and a new Global Foundries chip fabrication facility, is increasingly recognized, both nationally and internationally, as a premiere site

for high tech business and research. President Obama has twice visited to showcase our region as a model of successful public- academic- corporate collaboration in the innovation economy.

The region also hosts a vibrant and actively engaged intellectual property community, and a law school that offers a concentration in IP. Many of the 32 attorneys and patent agents in our firm, for example, graduated from Albany Law School.

In addition, the Capital region offers proximity to major geographic markets, a highly qualified technical workforce, outstanding educational opportunities, a stable business environment, and excellent quality of life at an affordable cost of living.

As the USPTO implements the provisions of the America Invents Act and we enter a new era of patent practice, I urge you to consider the Albany New York/Capital Region as a viable and attractive location for a satellite office.

Sincerely,

Jeff Rothenberg