

From: Jess Myers
Sent: Thursday, March 14, 2013 2:37 PM
To: SoftwareRoundtable2013
Subject: Patent troll comment

Letter attached

Jess Myers
Media & Public Relations Specialist |
1000 Westgate Dr., Suite 252 | St. Paul, MN 55114
p: 651.290.7465 | m: 612.910.3058 | www.ewald.com





March 14, 2013

Peggy Focarino
Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
600 Dulany Street
Alexandria VA 22314

Dear Commissioner Focarino:

I consider my business, No Sweat, to be a part of the growing economy, creating jobs and fueling local economies. At a time when jobs are hard to come by, companies like mine offer promise in Minnesota. But right now our growth potential is threatened by frivolous patent claims and litigation by patent trolls.

Patent trolls are nameless and faceless entities that only stifle innovation and progress. Small tech companies can't afford the lawsuits and often times end up shutting their doors for good or settling to avoid paying legal fees. The money spent on the litigation process should be applied toward innovation and developing new ideas.

As technology advances, patent reforms must keep up to protect today's tech industry. Specifically, we need protection from patent trolls who prey on our success. These patent trolls issue baseless lawsuits against small businesses leaving them with outrageous litigation costs.

Last year patent trolls sued tech companies more than 5,000 times. And the cost has reached almost \$80 billion when all costs are taken in to account.

I look to you and your colleagues in Congress to find solutions to help small businesses like mine avoid the patent trolls that can be a hindrance on our road to success. Please fix the flaws in our patent system that allow for patent trolls to destroy our country's smartest and brightest innovators.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Johnson".

Justin Johnson
President & CEO
No Sweat Co.