From: NeilThomas[e-mail address redacted] Sent: Monday, October 31, 2011 12:29 PM To: aia_implementation Subject: More Flexible and Fairer PTO Rules for Small and Micro Entities

Other than some 'insignificant' fee reduction for small- and micro- entities which do nothing to reduce the real costs of patent prosecution and enforcement, small inventors are subject to the same rules and regulations as the mega-corporations which have 100s of full-time patent attorneys and endless financial resources. What provisions for will the PTO make for small- and micro-entities to: provide more flexibility in rules generally? provide more flexibility in time limits? less stringent and onerous 'penalties?' provide full-time, pro bono legal assistance for all small- and micro- entities? Thank you, Neil Thomas, Silver Spring, MD