

Untitled

From: Vickie Brewster[e-mail address redacted]
Sent: Monday, January 30, 2012 12:54 AM
To: SatelliteOffices
Subject: Comments on Satellite Offices

Re: United States Patent and Trademark Offices (USPTO) Satellite Offices

Dear Sir/Madam,

In response to the November 29, 2011, Request for Comments on Additional USPTO Satellite Offices for the Nationwide Workforce Program [Docket No. PTO-C-2011-0066] I provide the following comments. In providing these comments, I have kept in mind the purpose for the satellite offices as well as the considerations enumerated by the USPTO as stated in the Request.

The current office and planned Detroit office effectively provide easy access for the Eastern and upper Mid-West portions of the US. Therefore, the South and West now need to have easy access. I suggest the San Francisco Bay Area and Denver. California is an obvious choice. The San Francisco Bay Area is home to Silicon Valley and the birthplace of biotech. There is also more than a smattering of entertainment type folks in the area, e.g., PIXAR and Industrial Light and Magic. There are several top tier universities in the area and a lot of very creative and innovate people. In addition, there are a large number of people qualified to work for the USPTO. In fact, the Sunnyvale Center for Innovation, Invention and Ideas operated until recently having opened in 1994. The region also has 3 international airports (San Francisco, Oakland and San Jose) making it easily accessible. Finally, according to a Politico.com article, California has had 446,523 patents issued since 1977 (<http://www.politico.com/news/stories/1011/65687.html>), dwarfing "every other state and most countries in the number of patents inventors received there." Definitely a case of putting an office where your clients are can be made for the San Francisco Bay Area.

Colorado may not be as obvious but it is well situated to serve the South and Mid-West. As noted on Wikipedia, "Denver is aeronautically equidistant between the global city of Los Angeles and the midwest metropolis of Chicago. Simultaneously, Denver is aeronautically equidistant between high-tech Seattle and jazzy New Orleans." This clearly makes access easy from a number of different geographic areas. Additionally, the government already has a significant presence in Colorado and might be able to utilize office space they already have. If this is possible, then this would help in keeping costs down. Finally, there are well trained people in Colorado that could serve industries that are different than those that served by the other offices. Specifically, the agricultural and food industries, mining, and the renewable energy industry (NREL is located in Golden, CO) come to mind. Locating satellite offices in these locales will improve accessibility of the USPTO to the innovative community and assist the USPTO in attracting and retaining a skilled workforce.

Very Truly Yours,
Victoria Brewster
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