

Jennifer Amy Ness
Regional Intellectual Property Officer
Southeast Asia

Jennie Ness is the Regional Intellectual Property Officer for Southeast Asia, based at the Commercial Section in the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand. Ms. Ness joined the Commercial Service through a new initiative between the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the Foreign Commercial Service. Ms. Ness's responsibilities include:

- Working with U.S. industry, in particular small-to-medium-sized enterprises, to aid them in protecting and enforcing their intellectual property rights in the global market;
- Providing legal and technical assistance to Southeast Asia's governments to assist them in improving the intellectual property legal and enforcement environment in the region;
- Promoting greater understanding of the importance of intellectual property protection by speaking and writing about intellectual property issues; and
- Negotiating various intellectual property issues on behalf of the Commerce Department and the U.S. government.

Prior to joining the US Embassy in Bangkok, Ms. Ness had served as an Attorney-Advisor in the Office of Legislative and International Affairs of the International Affairs of the USPTO since 2001. Ms. Ness joined the US Government from private practice, as an associate in the Media and Information Technologies Group at the Washington, D.C. law firm of Dow, Lohnes & Albertson. She also focused on intellectual property issues while clerking for the New York and Brussels offices of Cleary, Gottlieb, Steen & Hamilton and for the Paris law firm of Bernard-Hertz-Béjot. Before studying law, Ms. Ness worked in film and television development and production in Los Angeles, California and taught high school English and Social Studies.

Ms. Ness received her law degree, *cum laude*, from the Georgetown University Law Center. At Georgetown, she served as Managing Editor of *Law and Policy in International Business*, as a Legal Research and Writing Fellow, and as a Head Tutor. Ms. Ness holds a Masters' degree in Teaching and a Bachelors' degree, *cum laude*, from Brown University. She is licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia and Maryland.