



Management Discussion and Analysis

USPTO at a Glance

Vision

The USPTO leads the world in providing customer-valued intellectual property rights that spark innovation, create consumer confidence, and promote creativity.

Mission

The USPTO promotes industrial and technological progress in the United States and strengthens the economy by:

- Administering the laws relating to patents and trademarks while ensuring the creation of valid, prompt, and proper intellectual property rights; and
- Advising the Secretary of Commerce, the President of the United States, and the administration on all domestic and global aspects of intellectual property.

Location

Main offices: Arlington, Virginia.

Other sites: Two storage facilities in Springfield and Alexandria, Virginia; leased storage in Boyers, Pennsylvania.

World Wide Web Address

<http://www.uspto.gov>

Workforce

6,128 full-time equivalent staff.

Constitutional and Statutory Authorities

The Constitution of the United States, Article 1, Section 8, Clause 8, gives Congress the power to "promote the progress of science and useful arts by securing for limited times to authors and inventors the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries." Article 1, Section 8, Clause 3, gives Congress the power to "regulate commerce with foreign Nations, and among the several states, and with Indian tribes."

15 U.S.C. 1051-1127 contains provisions of the Trademark Act of 1946 that govern the administration of the trademark registration system.

35 U.S.C. contains basic authorities for administering patent law, derived from the Act of July 19, 1952, and subsequent acts. Revenues from fees are available to

The USPTO staff occupies 18 buildings in the Crystal City neighborhood of Arlington, VA.

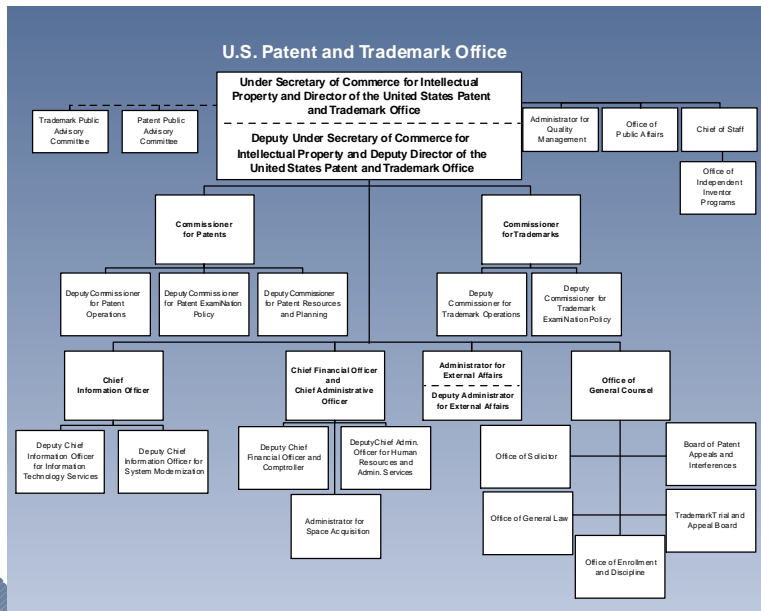


to the USPTO to the extent provided in appropriations acts.

The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (P.L. 106-113), was enacted on November 29, 1999, as part of H.Rept 106-479 on H.R. 3194, the Consolidated Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2000. The Act adjusted patent and trademark fees, required the USPTO to conduct a study of alternative fee structures, and provided a guarantee for patent terms against excessive delay in patent application processing. It provided for the publication of patent applications

18 months after filing, with certain exceptions, and broadened the circumstances under which a patent could be reexamined.

The Act also reestablished the USPTO as an agency within the Department of Commerce, created two Public Advisory Committees (one for patents and one for trademarks) to watch over the agency, and granted the USPTO flexibility in procurement and other administrative and managerial areas.



Members of the Patent Public Advisory Committee
(from left): Melvin T. White (NTEU), Roger L. May, Ronald J. Stern (POPA), Vernon A. Norviel, Andy Gibbs, Margaret Boulware, Patricia W. Ingraham, Nick Godic (*Commissioner for Patents*), Gerald A. Mosinghoff, Julie Watson (NTEU), Director Dickinson, Ronald E. Myrick.
Not pictured: James L. Ferguson and Katherine E. White



Members of the Trademark Public Advisory Committee
(from left): Director Dickinson, Howard Friedman, Anne Chasser (*Commissioner for Trademarks*), Griffith Price, David Stinson, Helen Korniewica, David Moyer, Miles Alexander, and Susan Lee.
Not pictured: Virginia Cade, Joseph Nicholson, Lawrence Oresky, Lou Pirkey, and John Rose II.

