

Profile:

Susan M. Johnson, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

POSITION TITLE: Design Patent Examiner

LEVEL: GS-12

OFFICE PHONE: 571-272-9977

EMAIL: smjohnson@uspto.gov

DIVISION / OFFICE: Office of the Commissioner for Patents

DUTIES OF CURRENT POSITION:

- ▶ Review patent applications to determine if they comply with Federal law and regulations
- ▶ Conduct extensive reviews of a large body of technical information which regularly includes detailed drawings
- ▶ Decide whether the claimed design is in fact novel and meets the standards of patentable invention
- ▶ Determine whether the components of a design must be considered separately for patentability
- ▶ Determine whether two individual claims are enough alike that only one patent can be issued and whether an issue of fact arises as to who was the first inventor.
- ▶ Upon request, draft counter brief ("Examiner's Answer on Appeal") in appeals of rejected applications
- ▶ Design Patent Applications
 - Approved Patent D781,672 (05/25/10): Ornamental design for cell phone
 - Denied Patent Application D11-23,779: Sarah T. Brown - Ornamental design for beverage container ***appeal in progress***

Proposed Post-Government Employment Position and Information:

PROSPECTIVE EMPLOYER: Dunlap Grubb Weaver LLC

PROSPECTIVE POSITION / DUTIES: Assist clients in preparing and processing applications for design patents and assist attorneys in representing clients in appeals of PTO's denial of applications, including appeal of denied Application D11-23,779: Ornamental design for beverage container (Client: Sarah T. Brown)