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Setting and Adjusting Patent Fees During Fiscal Year 2020

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Comment Jonathan Grant

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General Comment

For all of the lip service the USPTO gives about supporting or encouraging small inventors, these fees will discourage many clients from filing or maintaining patents. Small clients, more so than large or micro entities, will be disproportionately affected by the proposed increases.. The small entities are just large enough not to get micro status, while too small to afford the fees that large entities can [pay].

If a small company were to file six patent applications they need for their business, they will have to compromise and file only four or five patents. This will have an adverse affect the IP protection that small entities can obtain, and will subsequently and eventually have a negative impact on the US economy .

Of course, being a representative of small entities. nothing I type here will cause the USPTO to change their proposed fees, so let me recommend that in front of the Madison Building a huge sign be placed that reads, "US Patent and Trademark Office -- small companies need not file nor enter the premises."

- Jonathan E. Grant