

From: Drodge, Joseph

Sent: Wednesday, February 20, 2013 3:29 PM

To: RCE outreach

Subject: Ideas to encourage patent examiners to process more RCE applications; make them a docket management element!

A major incentive would be to make RCE applications a separate edan category of application, apart from the other Special New (continuing, divisional cases), then make RCE processing a separate, required docket management category for purposes of receiving the docket management award. This could work in conjunction with ranking RCE applications on the basis of the filing of the RCE document; for instance 1 or 1.25 RCE application processed per biweek might be required to qualify for the 0.50% docket management bonus, and a higher number (perhaps 1.5 or 1.75 per biweek) for the 0.75% bonus. The docket management software has generally failed to designate sufficient RCE applications as among the oldest effective applications to be processed each biweek.

Joseph (Joe) Drodge (employee # 66979)

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1778

Work phone: 571-272-1140, Alternate cell phone: 703-401-6309