

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA MONROE

January 30, 2012

Azam Khan
Deputy Chief of Staff
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Mail Stop Office of Under Secretary and Director
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
satelliteoffices@uspto.gov

Dear Mr. Khan:

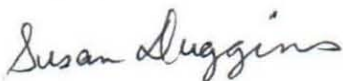
The Northeast Louisiana Business and Community Development Center would like to express its support for the United States Patent and Trademark Office to locate a satellite office in a central location in the Central Gulf Coast region of Southeast Louisiana/Southwest Mississippi. The NLBCDC knows that having a USPTO satellite office in the greater New Orleans, Louisiana region will provide greatly improved access to the USPTO, support Departmental objectives including CommerceConnect, and increase collaborations among Commerce bureaus throughout the southern states of the Austin and Atlanta Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration regions. The USPTO satellite office itself will provide a positive impact to the greater New Orleans region still recovering from the effects of Hurricane Katrina and the BP oil spill.

The NLBCDC is affiliated with the College of Business at the University of Louisiana at Monroe with the business incubator being housed on the ULM campus. As a staunch supporter and advocate for business owners in the northeast Louisiana delta region, the NLBCDC appreciates the value a USPTO office would bring to the state and region. Clearly, the location of a USPTO office within greater New Orleans will help both the NLBCDC accomplish its goals, allow for increased workflow, stimulate the development of higher quality technologies, and greatly enhance the commercialization of those technologies throughout our region.

A USPTO satellite office in any location within the greater New Orleans area would provide easy access to our organization and any organization from Texas to Florida. In addition, with rapidly growing infrastructure, excellent tax incentives for businesses, and high quality of life indicators, the greater New Orleans region is a logical choice for a USPTO satellite office.

The NLBCDC looks forward to your review of all of the comments and urges the USPTO to support this comment.

Sincerely,



Susan Duggins
Director, NLBCDC