

- Review and advise the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the USPTO on matters relating to policies, goals, performance, budget, and user fees of the USPTO relating to patents and trademarks, respectively; and
- Within 60 days after the end of each fiscal year: (1) Prepare an annual report on matters listed above; (2) transmit a report to the Secretary of Commerce, the President, and the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and the House of Representatives; and (3) publish the report in the Official Gazette of the USPTO.

Members of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Secretary of Commerce for three (3)-year terms.

Advisory Committees

The Public Advisory Committees are each composed of nine (9) voting members who are appointed by the Secretary of Commerce (the "Secretary"). The Public Advisory Committee members must be United States citizens and represent the interests of diverse users of the USPTO, both large and small entity applicants in proportion to the number of such applications filed. The Committees must include members who have "substantial backgrounds and achievement in finance, management, labor relations, science, technology, and office automation." 35 U.S.C. 5(b)(3). In the case of the Patent Public Advisory Committee, at least twenty-five (25) percent of the members must represent "small business concerns, independent inventors, and nonprofit organizations," and at least one member must represent the independent inventor community. 35 U.S.C. 5(b)(2). Each of the Public Advisory Committees also includes three (3) non-voting members representing each labor organization recognized by the USPTO.

Procedures and Guidelines of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees

Each newly appointed member of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees will serve for a term of three years from date of appointment. As required by the Act, members of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees will receive compensation for each day while the member is attending meetings or engaged in the business of that Advisory Committee. The rate of compensation is the daily equivalent of the annual rate of basic pay in effect for level III of the Executive Schedule under section 5314 of title 5,

United States Code. While away from home or regular place of business, each member will be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, as authorized by Section 5703 of Title 5, United States Code. The USPTO will provide the necessary administrative support, including technical assistance, for the Committees.

Applicability of Certain Ethics Laws

Members of each Public Advisory Committee shall be Special Government Employees within the meaning of Section 202 of title 18, United States Code. The following additional information includes several, but not all, of the ethics rules that apply to members, and assumes that members are not engaged in Public Advisory Committee business more than sixty days during each calendar year:

- Each member will be required to file a confidential financial disclosure form within thirty (30) days of appointment. 5 CFR 2634.202(c), 2634.204, 2634.903, and 2634.904(b).
- Each member will be subject to many of the public integrity laws, including criminal bars against representing a party, 18 U.S.C. 205(c), in a particular matter that came before the member's committee and that involved at least one specific party. *See also* 18 U.S.C. 207 for post-membership bars. A member also must not act on a matter in which the member (or any of certain closely related entities) has a financial interest. 18 U.S.C. 208.
- Representation of foreign interests may also raise issues. 35 U.S.C. 5(a)(1) and 18 U.S.C. 219.

Meetings of the Patent and Trademark Public Advisory Committees

Meetings of each Advisory Committee will take place at the call of the Chair to consider an agenda set by the Chair. Meetings may be conducted in person, electronically through the Internet, or by other appropriate means. The meetings of each Advisory Committee will be open to the public except each Advisory Committee may, by majority vote, meet in executive session when considering personnel, privileged, or other confidential matters. Nominees must also have the ability to participate in Committee business through the Internet.

Procedures for Submitting Nominations

Submit resumés for nomination for the Patent Public Advisory Committee and the Trademark Public Advisory Committee to: Chief of Staff to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark

Office, utilizing the addresses provided above.

Dated: April 21, 2008.

Jon W. Dudas,

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. E8-9120 Filed 4-24-08; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Missile Defense Advisory Committee Meeting Cancellation

AGENCY: Department of Defense; Missile Defense Agency.

ACTION: Notice of cancelled meeting.

SUMMARY: Due to the last minute unavailability of a quorum, the Missile Defense Advisory Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, April 2 and Thursday, April 3, 2008, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. was cancelled. At this date, neither the Department of Defense nor the committee's Designated Federal Officer has plans to reschedule the meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Al Bready, Designated Federal Officer at mdac@mda.mil, phone/voice mail 703-695-6438, or mail at 7100 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-7100.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of Defense announced this closed meeting in a notice that was published in the **Federal Register** (73 FR 15495) dated March 24, 2008.

Dated: April 18, 2008.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. E8-9086 Filed 4-24-08; 8:45 am]

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DELAWARE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION

Notice of Commission Meeting and Public Hearing

Notice is hereby given that the Delaware River Basin Commission will hold an informal conference followed by a public hearing on Wednesday, May 14, 2008. The hearing will be part of the Commission's regular business meeting. Both the conference session and business meeting are open to the public and will be held at the Independence Seaport Museum at Penn's Landing, 211 South Columbus Boulevard and Walnut Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.