

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**Patent and Trademark Office****Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; Representative and Address Provisions**

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites comments on the extension and revision of an existing information collection: 0651-0035 (Representative and Address Provisions). The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the information collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this information collection must be received on or before March 16, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by any of the following methods. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information:

- *Email:* InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include "0651-0035 comment" in the subject line of the message.
- *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.
- *Mail:* Kimberly Hardy, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information should be directed to Parikha Mehta, Legal Advisor, Office of Patent Legal Administration, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450; by telephone at 571-272-7728; or by email to Parikha.Mehta@uspto.gov. Additional information about this information collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under "Information Collection Review."

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Abstract**

This information collection includes the information necessary to submit a request to grant or revoke power of attorney for an application, patent, or

reexamination proceeding, and for a registered practitioner to withdraw as attorney or agent of record. This also includes the information necessary to change the correspondence address for an application, patent, or reexamination proceeding, to request a Customer Number and manage the correspondence address and list of practitioners associated with a Customer Number, and to designate or change the correspondence address or fee address for one or more patents or applications by using a Customer Number.

Under 35 U.S.C. 2 and 37 CFR 1.31-1.32, power of attorney may be granted to one or more joint inventors or a person who is registered to practice before the USPTO to act in an application or a patent. In particular, for an application filed before September 16, 2012, or for a patent which issued from an application filed before September 16, 2012, power of attorney may be granted by the applicant for patent (as set forth in 37 CFR 1.41(b) (pre-AIA)) or the assignee of the entire interest of the applicant. For an application filed on or after September 16, 2012, or for a patent which issued from an application filed on or after September 16, 2012, power of attorney may be granted by the applicant for patent (as set forth in 37 CFR 1.42) or the patent owner. The USPTO provides two different versions of the forms for establishing power of attorney based upon whether the application filing date is before or after September 16, 2012, to thereby reduce applicants' burden in having to determine the appropriate power of attorney requirements for a given application.

37 CFR 1.36 provides for the revocation of a power of attorney at any stage in the proceedings of a case. 37 CFR 1.36 also provides a path by which a registered patent attorney or patent agent who has been given a power of attorney may withdraw as attorney or agent of record.

The USPTO's Customer Number practice permits applicants, patent owners, assignees, and practitioners of record, or the representatives of record for a number of applications or patents, to change the correspondence address of a patent application or patent with one change request instead of filing separate requests for each patent or application. Any changes to the address or practitioner information associated with a Customer Number will be applied to all patents and applications associated with said Customer Number.

The Customer Number practice is optional, in that changes of correspondence address or power of attorney may be filed separately for each

patent or application without using a Customer Number. However, a Customer Number associated with the correspondence address for a patent application is required in order to access private information about the application using the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system, which is available through the USPTO website. The use of a Customer Number is also required in order to grant power of attorney to more than ten practitioners or to establish a separate "fee address" for maintenance fee purposes that is different from the correspondence address for a patent or application.

II. Method of Collection

Items in this information collection may be submitted by mail, facsimile, hand delivery, or online electronic submissions.

III. Data

OMB Control Number: 0651-0035.
Form Number(s): (AIA= American Invents; SB = Specimen Book).

- PTO/AIA/80; PTO/SB/80 (Power of Attorney to Prosecute Applications Before the USPTO)
- PTO/AIA/81 (Power of Attorney to one or More of the Joint Inventors and Change of Correspondence Address)
- PTO/SB/81 (Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address)
- PTO/AIA/81A; PTO/SB/81A (Patent—Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address)
- PTO/AIA/81B (Reexamination or Supplemental Examination—Patent Owner Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney With a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address for Reexamination or Supplemental Examination and Patent)
- PTO/SB/81B (Reexamination—Patent Owner Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address)
- PTO/SB/81C (Reexamination—Third Party Requester Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address)
- PTO/AIA/82A; PTO/AIA/82B; PTO/AIA/82C (Transmittal for Power of Attorney To One Or More Registered Practitioners/Power Of Attorney By Applicant)
- PTO/AIA/83; PTO/SB/83 (Request for Withdrawal as Attorney or Agent and Change of Correspondence Address)

- PTO/SB/124 (Request for Customer Number Data Change)
- PTO/SB/125 (Request for Customer Number)
- PTO-2248 (Request to Update a PCT Application with a Customer Number)

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Affected Public: Private sector; individuals or households.
Estimated Number of Respondents: 184,745 respondents per year.
Estimated Number of Responses: 184,745 responses per year.
Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that the response time for activities related to Representative Address Provisions will take the public

between 0.05 hours (3 minutes) to 1.5 hours (90 minutes) to complete. This includes the time to gather the necessary information, create the document, and submit the completed request to the USPTO.
Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 11,355 hours.
Estimated Total Annual Respondent Hourly Cost Burden: \$ 1,763,775.

TABLE 1—TOTAL HOURLY BURDEN FOR PRIVATE SECTOR RESPONDENTS

Item No.	Item	Estimated annual respondents	Estimated annual responses (year)	Estimated time for response (hour)(b)	Estimated annual burden (hour/year)	Rate ¹ (\$/hour)	Estimated annual burden
			(a)	(b)	(a) × (b) = (c)	(d)	(c) × (d) = (e)
1	Power of Attorney to Prosecute Applications Before the USPTO—PTO/AIA/80 PTO/SB/80.	2,425	2,425	0.05 (3 minutes)	121	\$145	\$17,545
2	Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence—PTO/AIA/82A; PTO/AIA/82B; PTO/AIA/82C.	165,870	165,870	0.05 (3 minutes)	8,294	145	1,202,630
3	Patent—Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address—PTO/AIA/81; PTO/SB/81; PTO/AIA/81A; PTO/SB/81A.	165	165	0.05 (3 minutes)	8	145	1,160
4	Reexamination—Patent Owner Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address—PTO/AIA/81B PTO/SB/81B.	29	29	0.05 (3 minutes)	1	145	145
5	Reexamination—Third Party Requester Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address—PTO/SB/81C.	24	24	0.05 (3 minutes)	1	145	145
6	Request for Withdrawal as Attorney or Agent and Change of Correspondence Address—PTO/AIA/83 PTO/SB/83.	2,134	2,134	0.20 (12 minutes)	427	400	170,800
7	Petition Under 37 CFR 1.36(a) to Revoke Power of Attorney by Fewer than All the Applicants.	10	10	1.00 (60 minutes)	10	400	4,000
8	Petition to Waive 37 CFR 1.32(b)(4) and Grant Power of Attorney by Fewer than All the Applicants.	10	10	1.00 (60 minutes)	10	400	4,000
9	Request for Customer Number Data Change—PTO/SB/124.	1,067	1,067	0.20 (12 minutes)	213	145	30,885
10	Request for Customer Number—PTO/SB/125.	6,111	6,111	0.20 (12 minutes)	1,222	145	177,190
11	Customer Number Upload Spreadsheet	291	291	1.50 (90 minutes)	437	145	63,365
12	Request to Update a PCT Application with a Customer Number—PTO-2248.	1,067	1,067	0.25 (15 minutes)	267	145	38,715
Totals			179,203	179,203		11,011	1,710,580

¹ 2019 Report of the Economic Survey, published by the Committee on Economics of Legal Practice of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA); <https://www.aipla.org/detail/journal-issue/2019-report-of-the-economic-survey>. The USPTO uses the mean rate for attorneys in private firms which is \$400 per hour. The hourly rate for paraprofessional/paralegals is estimated at \$145 from data published in the 2018 Utilization and Compensation Survey by the National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA); <https://www.nala.org/paralegals/research-and-survey-findings>.

TABLE 2—TOTAL HOURLY BURDEN FOR INDIVIDUALS OR HOUSEHOLDS RESPONDENTS

Item No.	Item	Estimated annual respondents	Estimated annual responses (year)	Estimated time for response (hour)	Estimated annual burden (hour/year)	Rate ² (\$/hour)	Estimated annual burden
			(a)	(b)	(a) × (b) = (c)	(d)	(c) × (d) = (e)
1	Power of Attorney to Prosecute Applications Before the USPTO—PTO/AIA/80 PTO/SB/80.	75	75	0.05 (3 minutes)	4	145	580
2	Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence—PTO/AIA/82A; PTO/AIA/82B; PTO/AIA/82C.	5,130	5,130	0.05 (3 minutes)	257	145	37,265

TABLE 2—TOTAL HOURLY BURDEN FOR INDIVIDUALS OR HOUSEHOLDS RESPONDENTS—Continued

Item No.	Item	Estimated annual respondents	Estimated annual responses (year)	Estimated time for response (hour)	Estimated annual burden (hour/year)	Rate ² (\$/hour)	Estimated annual burden
			(a)	(b)	(a) × (b) = (c)	(d)	(c) × (d) = (e)
3	Patent—Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address—PTO/AIA/81; PTO/SB/81; PTO/AIA/81A; PTO/SB/81A.	5	5	0.05 (3 minutes)	1	145	145
4	Reexamination—Patent Owner Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address—PTO/AIA/81B PTO/SB/81B.	1	1	0.05 (3 minutes)	1	145	145
5	Reexamination—Third Party Requester Power of Attorney or Revocation of Power of Attorney with a New Power of Attorney and Change of Correspondence Address—PTO/SB/81C.	1	1	0.05 (3 minutes)	1	145	145
6	Request for Withdrawal as Attorney or Agent and Change of Correspondence Address—PTO/AIA/83 PTO/SB/83.	66	66	0.20 (12 minutes)	13	400	5,200
9	Request for Customer Number Data Change—PTO/SB/124.	33	33	0.20 (12 minutes)	7	145	1,015
10	Request for Customer Number—PTO/SB/125.	189	189	0.20 (12 minutes)	38	145	5,510
11	Customer Number Upload Spreadsheet	9	9	1.50 (90 minutes)	14	145	2,030
12	Request to Update a PCT Application with a Customer Number—PTO—2248.	33	33	0.25 (15 minutes)	8	145	1,160
Totals.	.....	5,542	5,542	.....	344	.....	53,195

² 2019 Report of the Economic Survey, published by the Committee on Economics of Legal Practice of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA); <https://www.aipla.org/detail/journal-issue/2019-report-of-the-economic-survey>. The USPTO uses the mean rate for attorneys in private firms which is \$400 per hour. The hourly rate for paraprofessional/paralegals is estimated at \$145 from data published in the 2018 Utilization and Compensation Survey by the National Association of Legal Assistants (NALA); <https://www.nala.org/paralegals/research-and-survey-findings>.

Estimated Total Annual Non-hour Respondent Cost Burden: \$22,868.
There are no capital start-up, maintenance, or recordkeeping costs associated with this information

collection. However, USPTO estimates that the total annual (non-hour) cost burden for this information collection, in the form of filing fees and postage is \$22,868.

Filing Fees

The two petitions in this information collection have associated filing fees under 37 CFR 1.17(f), resulting in \$8,000 in filing fees.

Item No.	Item	Estimated annual responses	Filing fee (\$)	Total non-hour cost burden
		(a)	(b)	(c) = (a) × (b)
8	Petitions Under 37 CFR 1.36(a) to Revoke Power of Attorney by Fewer than All the Applicants	10	\$400.00	\$4,000
9	Petitions to Waive 37 CFR 1.32(b)(4) and Grant Power of Attorney by Fewer than All the Applicants	10	400.00	4,000
Total	.....	.....	.....	8,000

Postage Costs

Although the USPTO prefers that the items in this information collection be submitted electronically, responses may be submitted by mail through the United States Postal Service (USPS). The USPTO estimates that 1% of the 184,745 items will be submitted in the mail resulting in 1,847 mailed items. The USPTO estimates that the average postage cost for a mailed submission, using a Priority Mail 2-day flat rate legal envelope, will be \$8.05. Therefore, the USPTO estimates the total mailing costs

for this information collection at \$14,868.

Respondent's Obligation: Required to obtain or retain benefits.

IV. Request for Comments

The USPTO is soliciting public comments to:

(a) Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

(b) Evaluate the accuracy of the Agency's estimate of the burden of the

proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

(c) Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

(d) Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submission of responses.

All comments submitted in response to this notice are a matter of public record. USPTO will include or summarize each comment in the request to OMB to approve this information collection. Before including an address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in a comment, be aware that the entire comment—including personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you may ask in your comment to withhold personal identifying information from public view, USPTO cannot guarantee that it will be able to do so.

Kimberly Hardy,

Information Collections Officer, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office.

[FR Doc. 2021-00912 Filed 1-14-21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-16-P

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office

Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Comment Request; National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Application

AGENCY: United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of information collection; request for comment.

SUMMARY: The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, invites comments on the extension and revision of an existing information collection: 0651-0060 (National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Application). The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment preceding submission of the information collection to OMB.

DATES: To ensure consideration, comments regarding this information collection must be received on or before March 16, 2021.

ADDRESSES: Interested persons are invited to submit written comments by any of the following methods. Do not

submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information:

Email: InformationCollection@uspto.gov. Include “0651-0060 comment” in the subject line of the message.

• *Federal Rulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>.

• *Mail:* Kimberly Hardy, Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Requests for additional information should be directed to the attention of John Palafoutas, Program Manager, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, by telephone at 571-272-8400, or by email at nmti@uspto.gov. Additional information about this information collection is also available at <http://www.reginfo.gov> under “Information Collection Review.”

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Abstract

The National Medal of Technology and Innovation is the highest honor for technological achievement bestowed by the president of the United States on America's leading innovators. Established by an Act of Congress in 1980, the Medal of Technology was first awarded in 1985. The Medal is awarded annually to individuals, teams (of up to four individuals), companies, or divisions of companies. The Medal recognizes outstanding contributions to the Nation's economic, environmental, and social well-being through the development and commercialization of technology products, processes and concepts, technological innovation, and development of the Nation's technological workforce. By highlighting the national importance of technological innovation, the Medal also seeks to inspire future generations of Americans to prepare for and pursue technical careers to keep America at the forefront of global technology and economic leadership.

The National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Evaluation Committee, a distinguished independent committee appointed by the Secretary of Commerce, reviews and evaluates the merit of all candidates nominated through an open,

competitive solicitation process. The committee makes its recommendations for Medal candidates to the Secretary of Commerce who, in turn, makes recommendations to the President for final selection. The National Medal of Technology and Innovation Laureates are announced by the White House once the Medalists are notified of their selection.

This information collection covers data gathered in the National Medal of Technology and Innovation Nomination Application, which the public uses to nominate an individual's, team's, or company's extraordinary leadership and innovation in technological achievement and outstanding contribution to strengthening the nation's technological workforce. The application collects general and biographical information about the nominee, general information about the nominator, and a discussion of the nominee's contribution/achievements, and must be accompanied by up to six letters of recommendation or support from individuals who have first-hand knowledge of the cited achievement(s).

II. Method of Collection

The items in this information collection can be submitted electronically through the USPTO website via the online portal on www.uspto.gov/nmti.

III. Data

OMB Number: 0651-0060.

Form Number: None.

Type of Review: Revision of a currently approved information collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 50 respondents per year.

Estimated Number of Responses: 50 responses per year.

Estimated Time per Response: The USPTO estimates that it will take approximately 40 hours to gather the necessary information, prepare the nomination application, write the recommendations, and submit the request for the nomination to the USPTO.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Burden Hours: 2,000 hours.

Estimated Total Annual Respondent Hourly Cost Burden: \$97,140.