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

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**BILLING CODE 3510-16-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Patent and Trademark Office

[Docket No. PTO-C-2021-0016]

#### New Implementation Date for Patent Practitioner Registration Statement

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

**ACTION:** Notice of revised implementation date.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO or Office) is delaying the implementation of the biennial mandatory registration statement required from registered patent practitioners and individuals granted limited recognition to practice before the USPTO in patent matters indefinitely.

**DATES:** *Delayed Implementation Date:* The USPTO anticipates that the collection of the registration statement will not start until approximately 2025. The USPTO will provide a six months advance notice prior to the collection of the registration statement.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Will Covey, Deputy General Counsel and OED Director, at 571-272-4097 or at [oed@uspto.gov](mailto:oed@uspto.gov). Please direct media inquiries to the USPTO's Office of the Chief Communications Officer at 571-272-8400.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the final rule, Setting and Adjusting Patent Fees During Fiscal Year 2020, 85 FR 46932 (August 3, 2020), registered patent practitioners and individuals granted limited recognition to practice before the USPTO in patent matters may be required to biennially submit a mandatory registration statement. See 37 CFR 11.11(a)(2). In the final rule, the USPTO anticipated that practitioners would be required to submit a registration statement in the spring of 2022, and that patent practitioners would make the voluntary Continuing Legal Education (CLE) certification when submitting the registration statement. 85 FR 46932, at 46948.

On October 9, 2020, the USPTO published a request for comments (RFC) seeking public input on proposed CLE

guidelines. 85 FR 64128. The RFC provided that pursuant to the final rule published on August 3, 2020, registered patent practitioners and individuals granted limited recognition to practice before the USPTO in patent matters will be required to biennially submit a mandatory registration statement beginning on March 1, 2022. The comment period closed on January 7, 2021. The USPTO received 26 comments, addressing both the proposed CLE guidelines and the provisions of the final patent fee rule which establish the biennial electronic registration statement.

After considering numerous factors, on June 10, 2021, the USPTO issued a notice of revised implementation date which stated that the USPTO has decided to delay the implementation of the registration statement. 86 FR 30920. The decision to delay was based on the USPTO's consideration of public comments received regarding the registration statement in response to the RFC on the proposed CLE guidelines. The USPTO's decision was also based on a close analysis of operational priorities and budget. The USPTO noted that delaying implementation of the registration statement will allow the Office to conserve resources by integrating the registration statement with other USPTO information systems. Therefore, the USPTO anticipated that the collection of the registration statement would begin on November 1, 2024.

The USPTO has decided to delay the implementation of the registration statement. The decision to delay is based on a close analysis of operational priorities and budget. The USPTO notes that delaying implementation of the registration statement will allow the Office to conserve resources by integrating the registration statement with other USPTO information systems. Therefore, the USPTO anticipates that the collection of the registration statement will not start until approximately 2025.

Once a new date for collection of the registration statement is certain, the public will be given a six months advance notice.

**Katherine K. Vidal,**

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

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## COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

### Procurement List; Additions and Deletions

**AGENCY:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

**ACTION:** Additions to the Procurement List.

**SUMMARY:** This action adds a service(s) to the Procurement List that will be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

**DATES:** *Date added to the Procurement List:* May 14, 2023.

**ADDRESSES:** Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, 355 E Street SW, Suite 325, Washington, DC 20024.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Michael R. Jurkowski, Telephone: (703) 785-6404, or email [CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov](mailto:CMTEFedReg@AbilityOne.gov).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Additions

On 1/13/2023 the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notice of proposed additions to the Procurement List. This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 8503 (a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the service(s) and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the p service(s) listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 8501-8506 and 41 CFR 51-2.4.

##### Regulatory Flexibility Act Certification

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the product(s) and service(s) to the Government.

2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the product(s) and service(s) to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish