

JUSTIFICATION FOR NONMATERIAL/NONSUBSTANTIVE CHANGE TO 0651-0027

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) is submitting this change worksheet for the revision of two forms that are included in information collection 0651-0027 Recording Assignments, which was previously approved by OMB on 6/27/2005. The USPTO is removing the credit card payment information from the Patent Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1595) and the Trademark Recordation Form Cover Sheet (PTO-1594). Instead, customers who wish to submit an assignment recordation request on paper and pay the associated fees by credit card will be required to use the separate Credit Card Payment Form (PTO-2038), which is currently included in information collection 0651-0043 Patent and Trademark Financial Transactions. Using the separate credit card payment form will allow the customer's credit card information to be excluded from the relevant patent and trademark files that may be open to public inspection.

Change in Burden

The information collection 0651-0027 Recording Assignments is currently approved with an estimated burden of 331,294 responses, 165,648 hours, and \$23,165,071 in annual (non-hour) costs per year. The revisions to Forms PTO-1594 and PTO-1595 will not result in any changes to the estimated annual responses, burden hours, or annual (non-hour) costs for this collection.

The requirement to submit a separate credit card payment form (PTO-2038) when using a credit card to pay assignment fees for paper submissions may impact the number of annual responses for Form PTO-2038 and consequently the burden for the associated collection 0651-0043 Patent and Trademark Financial Transactions. The potential impact on the burden for 0651-0043 due to the revised assignment forms will be considered during in the next renewal of that collection.

Sample copies of the proposed revised versions of Forms PTO-1594 and PTO-1595 have been attached as supplementary documents to this submission.