

## **Survey Invitation Language**

The Patents Alert message will include the following language:

“This is a request for Patents Attorneys and Agents to complete the External Quality Survey (EQS). The purpose of the EQS is to measure changes in patent examination quality over time. The results from this voluntary survey will assist us in guiding improvements and enhancements in the future. Click on the following link <link>. We assure you that your responses will be used solely for research and no identifying information about you will be linked to the results. This survey will take no more than 10 minutes to complete. Thank you and your participation is crucial to this ongoing effort.”

## **Privacy Act Statement**

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) collects this information under authority of 5 CFR 339.205. The information in this system of records is used to manage biographical information, personal and professional qualifications, character and fitness report, investigations of an applicant's suitability or eligibility for registration to practice before the USPTO, undertakings of former patent examiners, current address, and status information. The information you provide is protected from disclosure to third parties in accordance with the Privacy Act.

However, routine uses of this information may include disclosure to the following: Routine uses will include publishing and disseminating a public roster including an address of record, law firm or company affiliation, telephone number, and registration number of the active registered individuals on the USPTO Web site, to law enforcement and investigation in the event that the system of records indicates a violation or potential violation of law; to a Federal, state, local, or international agency, in response to its request; to an agency, organization, or individual for the purpose of performing audit or oversight operations as authorized by law to contractors and their agents, grantees, experts, consultants, and others performing or working on a contract, service, grant, cooperative agreement, or other work assignment for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, when necessary to accomplish an agency function related to this system of records; to the Department of Justice for Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) assistance; to members of congress working on behalf of an individual; to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) for personnel research purposes; to National Archives and Records Administration for inspection of records. Failure to provide any part of the requested information may result in an inability to process requests for access and information. The applicable Privacy Act System of Records Notice for this information is COMMERCE/PAT-TM-1 Attorneys and Agents Registered to Practice Before the Office available at Federal Register /Vol. 78, No. 53 /Tuesday, March 19, 2013 /Notices

OMB Control Number: 0651-0057

Expiration Date: 9/30/2028

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2013/03/19/2013-06254/privacy-act-of-1974-system-of-records>

### **Paperwork Reduction Act Statement**

A Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, nor shall a person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with an information collection subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, unless the information collection has a valid OMB Control Number. The OMB Control Number for this information collection is 0651-0057. Public burden for this survey is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the information collection. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this information collection, including suggestions for reducing this burden to the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or email [InformationCollection@uspto.gov](mailto:InformationCollection@uspto.gov).