

Patent Pendency Problems and Possible Solutions to Reducing Patent Pendency at the United States Patent and Trademark Office

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I. Introduction

The United States Patent and Trademark Office ("USPTO") has a patent pendency problem. Patent pendency is measured from the time an applicant files an application to the time the USPTO grants the applicant patent rights. There are numerous solutions to reducing patent penden-

cy, some of which include changing quality standards, improving law school reimbursement, changing GS-15 criteria, changing art unit structure, changing case distribution, open up more locations, limiting continuations, and limiting claims.

Regarding quality standards, the USPTO should not invest so much time and resources in improving quality, which

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