



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

July 27, 2021

Mr. Richard Neifeld
PTAAARMIGAN
PTAAARMIGAN@PTAAARMIGAN.ORG

RE: ***Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request No. F-21-00169***

Dear Mr. Neifeld:

This is in response to your letter dated July 12, 2021, in which you requested, pursuant to the FOIA, 5 U.S.C. § 552 a copy of:

The following records insofar as they relate to the 2020 Fee Setting Rule (including its component DOCX rule):

1. Records sufficient to identify the individuals (either by title or by name) that were either required to, or actually did, sign off on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking of July 31, 2019.
2. Please provide all communications with OMB or OIRA or SBA relating to the DOCX rule. This includes any communications in advance of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking of July 31, 2019, and all communications relating to rulemaking RIN 0651-AD31 and Information Collection Control Numbers 0651-0031 and -0032.
3. Please provide all communications with OMB, OIRA, or SBA, relating to the DOCX rule that was prepared, submitted, and/or approved, and any guidance, instructions, policy memoranda, economic analyses, surveys, consideration of alternatives, information sought from the public, or other documents concerning legal, procedural, or economic justification for the claim developed in preparation for any submission to OMB, OIRA, or SBA, or any decision not to make such a submission. Please include sufficient context to identify the date on which any document was submitted to OMB, OIRA, or SBA, and please provide all documents relating to assessment of burden on the public (as defined in 5 C.F.R. § 1320.3(b)(1)) of the DOCX rule.

Preliminary estimates indicate that the approximate processing cost of this FOIA request is **\$ 4322.25**. Associated copying charges cannot be estimated until a final determination regarding releasability is made.

This estimate does not necessarily represent the final cost. Estimates are inherently imprecise, and the final cost could be higher or lower than the amount provided here. However, the estimate provided herein is reasonably calculated to represent search costs required to adequately respond to your request.

As a non-commercial use FOIA requester, you are responsible for a search (excluding the first two hours) and for duplication (excluding the first 100 pages). See 37 C.F.R. § 102.11(c)(1)(iv).

Please note that a search fee is chargeable even when no responsive records are found, or when the records requested are determined to be totally exempt from disclosure. See 37 C.F.R. § 102.11(c)(3)(i).

Since the estimate exceeds \$250.00, you are required to pay the entire amount estimated before a search can begin. See 37 C.F.R. § 102.1(i)(2).

Please remit, within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, a check made payable to the “Department of Treasury” in the amount of \$ **4322.25**. The payment may be sent to:

United States Patent and Trademark Office
Freedom of Information Act Officer
Office of the General Counsel
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

If payment in full is not received by **August 26, 2021**, this request will be considered withdrawn and closed. Please contact us before that date, however, if you would like to discuss your request in order to reformulate it to meet your needs at a reduced cost.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Traci Alexander', is positioned above the typed name.

Traci Alexander
FOIA Specialist
Office of General Law