



American Intellectual Property Law Association

June 11, 2025

The Honorable Chuck E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
224 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Durbin:

The American Intellectual Property Law Association (“AIPLA”) is pleased to submit this letter in response to the nomination of John A. Squires as Director of the United States Patent & Trademark Office (“USPTO”). In view of his impressive background, AIPLA believes Mr. Squires is fully capable of undertaking this important role and appreciates the Senate Judiciary Committee giving this nominee prompt consideration.

AIPLA is a national bar association of approximately 7,000 members including professionals engaged in private or corporate practice, government service, and the academic community. AIPLA members represent a wide array of individuals, companies, and institutions involved directly or indirectly in the practice of patent, trademark, copyright, trade secret, and unfair competition law, and other fields of law affecting intellectual property. Our members represent both owners and users of intellectual property. As part of its mission, AIPLA advocates for fair and effective laws and policies that stimulate and reward invention and intellectual creativity, while balancing the public’s interest in healthy competition, reasonable costs, and basic fairness.

AIPLA endorses Mr. Squires as Director of the USPTO. As an organization committed to the fair application of intellectual property law and policy, we believe a USPTO Director must demonstrate sufficient experience in the practice of intellectual property law. Mr. Squires’s 30-plus year career in the area of intellectual property law fully satisfies this requirement. He has spent considerable time both in law firms as a partner and in senior IP counsel roles in corporations where intellectual property protection was an important component of the business. In his public comments, in his testimony to this Committee in connection with his nomination, and in his testimony before this Committee in the past (including testifying on the Patent Reform Act of 2007 and his work relating to the landmark *In re Bilski* case regarding patent eligibility), Mr. Squires demonstrated a deep and nuanced understanding of patent law. We also note that Mr. Squires has a reputation for an open mind and an even temperament that will serve him well as he addresses the various patent and trademark matters as head of the USPTO.

We look forward to working with Mr. Squires upon his confirmation as Director of the USPTO. Finally, we thank you in advance for your consideration of AIPLA’s views.

AIPLA Letter on Squires Nomination for USPTO

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Salvatore Anastasi". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Salvatore" and last name "Anastasi" clearly distinguishable.

Salvatore Anastasi

President-Elect

American Intellectual Property Law Association

CC: Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee