



American Intellectual Property Law Association

May 23, 2017

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Room 224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Diane Feinstein
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Room 152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Nomination of the Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator

Dear Chairman Grassley and Ranking Member Feinstein:

The American Intellectual Property Law Association (“AIPLA”) is pleased to submit this letter regarding Vishal Amin’s nomination to be the United States Intellectual Property Enforcement Coordinator. In view of the many significant issues concerning intellectual property enforcement, AIPLA appreciates that the Administration and the Judiciary Committee are giving this nomination prompt consideration.

AIPLA is a national bar association with approximately 14,000 members who are lawyers in both private and corporate practice, judges, patent agents, academics, law students and patent and trademark office professionals. Our members practice in a wide and diverse spectrum of intellectual property fields, including patent, trademark, copyright, and unfair competition law, as well as other areas of law affecting intellectual property. They represent both owners and users of intellectual property, as well as those who litigate and prosecute before patent and trademark offices, giving AIPLA a unique and varied perspective on patent procurement, licensing and litigation practices.

Vishal Amin has served as Senior Counsel on the House Judiciary Committee and has also served in the Executive Branch, notably the Department of Commerce. Through these positions, he has had the opportunity to interact with many stakeholders in the intellectual property community and has gained significant insight into the issues that are important to them. He has also acquired a skill set that should serve him well in satisfying the demanding requirements of this position. We look forward to working with him following his confirmation.

In addition, we feel it is important for the Committee to continue its work with others in Congress to help ensure that this Office, which has been in need of more resources over the years, is provided with the necessary tools and support to carry out its mission.

AIPLA appreciates your work and leadership on this important issue and we thank you in advance for considering these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark L. Whitaker".

Mark L. Whitaker
President
American Intellectual Property Law Association