

Chief Economist (Office of the Under Secretary and Director)

INTRODUCTION:

This position is located in the Office of the Under Secretary and Director, United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO).

This position is established to manage and direct the activities of the permanent staff of the "Office of the Chief Economist" (OCE) which is located in the Office of the Under Secretary. The Chief Economist is responsible for advising the Under Secretary on the economic implications of policies and programs affecting the United States' intellectual property system. The Chief Economist initiates and oversees groundbreaking economic analysis in the field of intellectual property, with the object of fulfilling the USPTO's statutory obligations to provide the President (through the Secretary of Commerce) and the Administration with advice on intellectual property policy.

The incumbent of this position serves as the Chief Economist pursuant to an Intergovernmental Personnel Act agreement.

The Chief Economist (CE) supports the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in fulfillment of its statutory obligations to advise the President (through the Secretary of Commerce) and Federal departments and agencies on matters of intellectual property policy in the United States and other countries. The objective of the CE is to provide a clear picture of the economic impacts and considerations inherent in various potential and actual intellectual-property (IP) policies, through the interpretation of existing empirical data; preparation of studies and analyses – using, among other things, national income and product accounts, as summarized by the gross domestic product; the wealth accounts, which show the composition and ownership of national wealth; the input-output accounts, which trace the interrelationships among industrial markets; other national economic accounts that are within the framework of the system of national accounts; gross state product and personal income and related economic series by geographic area; and the balance of payments accounts and associated foreign investment accounts. The analyses prepared by the CE may be disseminated through USPTO news releases, the Internet, and other electronic media.

The analyses prepared by the CE are major tools used for national economic analysis and decision making, not only by officials at the USPTO and Department of Commerce, but also by policy makers in Congress and in many executive agencies including the Council of Economic Advisers, the Federal Trade Commission, the Department of Justice, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Office of the United States Trade Representative. The CE's analyses are also used extensively by a wide range of officials at international intergovernmental organizations, State and local governments, businesses, financial institutions, educational organizations and the like.

The Chief Economist plans and develops the USPTO's economic research program, and the new concepts and methods to be implemented by the Office of the Chief Economist (OCE); advises the Under Secretary and Director with regard to major conceptual and theoretical developments with respect to intellectual-property and economics; and serves as the USPTO's economic-policy liaison to the academic and research community.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Chief Economist is responsible for keeping the concepts and methods underpinning the USPTO's economic accounts timely, accurate, and relevant. This includes:

Research into new concepts and measures that will keep pace with changes in the United States and the world economy;

Serving as liaison to the academic and broader research community in reviewing articles and research issues of importance in the field of intellectual property; and

Initiating and overseeing external research on IP-related economic issues.

The Chief Economist oversees and coordinates the basic IP-related economic research activities of the USPTO.

Develops recommendations for plans, programs, and policies for the Under Secretary Director that will ensure that the USPTO presents a theoretically coherent, accurate, reliable, timely, and relevant picture of the impact of intellectual property on the U.S. economy.

Advises the Under Secretary and Director on economic research, emphasizing solid conceptual foundations, consistency, and analytical usefulness. Coordinates the USPTO's economic research agenda and monitors the USPTO's progress in meeting its long-term strategic goals.

Serves as principal technical advisor to the Under Secretary and Director with respect to major developments in economic accounting concepts and methods.

Guides the development of new concepts and theories to extend and improve domestic innovation and competitiveness in the area of intellectual property.

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS:

Demonstrated competence and experience in the use of national, international, industry and/or regional economic accounts including in-depth knowledge of the statistical techniques and data sources used in the analysis and preparation of these economic accounts.

Demonstrated research experience in the area of national, international, industry and/or regional economic accounts (i.e., evidenced by publications in refereed journals and invited participation in professional and scientific organizations).

Experience that demonstrates the skill to serve as advisor to high-level officials and organizations (e.g., academics, government policy officials, governmental commissions, officials in international organizations, international and national expert groups and commissions) on new developments in economic accounting concepts and methods.

SUPERVISION:

The Chief, Economist reports to the Under Secretary and Director who provides only broad administrative supervision. The incumbent acts with full authority on substantive matters in the assigned field of responsibilities, subject only to review by the Under Secretary and Director.

On matters which involve USPTO policy, confers with the Under Secretary and Director prior to any final commitments.

POSITION DESIGNATION:

This position is designated as _____. It is imperative that this position be viewed as above political considerations.