

**Termination of the Waiver of Provisions of 37 CFR 1.8 and 1.10 for Correspondence  
Intended for the United States Patent and Trademark Office but Addressed to  
Washington, DC 20231**

Effective on April 4, 2005, the provisions of 37 CFR 1.8 (Certificate of Mailing) and 1.10 (“Express Mail”) **will no longer be waived** for correspondence addressed to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), Washington, DC 20231. On May 1, 2003, the USPTO changed its address for certain correspondence to P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. See 37 CFR 1.1 and *Correspondence with the United States Patent and Trademark Office*, 68 Fed. Reg. 14332 (March 25, 2003), 1269 *Off. Gaz. Pat. Office* 159 (Apr. 22, 2003). To allow applicants time to become accustomed to the new address in Alexandria, VA, the USPTO waived the provisions of 37 CFR 1.8 and 1.10 such that correspondence addressed to Washington, DC 20231 would be treated as acceptable under 37 CFR 1.8 and 1.10 for otherwise compliant Certificates of Mailing and “Express Mail.”

The United States Postal Service (USPS) has ceased forwarding to the USPTO correspondence addressed to Washington, DC 20231. Additionally, the USPTO will no longer arrange for the delivery to Alexandria, VA of correspondence addressed to Washington, DC 20231 after April 3, 2005. Thus, after April 3, 2005, all correspondence addressed to the Washington, DC 20231 address will be returned to sender marked by the USPS as undeliverable. Such mail returned to the sender by the USPS **will not** be considered proof of prior filing or mailing under 37 CFR 1.8(b) or 1.10(e) since the correspondence was not mailed in accordance with 37 CFR 1.1.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.1, correspondence intended for the USPTO must be mailed to P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, except as otherwise provided.

1. Correspondence intended for the USPTO, unless directed otherwise, must be addressed to:

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

2. Correspondence in patent-related matters to organizations reporting to the Commissioner for Patents must be addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

3. Correspondence in trademark-related matters, except documents sent to the Assignment Services Division for recordation, requests for copies of trademark documents, and documents directed to the Madrid Processing Unit, must be addressed to:

Commissioner for Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1451  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1451

The above addresses are the USPTO's three general mailing addresses for mail delivered by the USPS; however, the USPTO has separate mailing addresses for certain correspondence as set forth in the notice titled "Mailing and Hand Carry Addresses for Mail to the United States Patent and Trademark Office" (formerly, "Special Mail Stops For Patent Mail") that is published each week in the Official Gazette Notices and posted on the USPTO Internet web site.

Questions regarding this notice may be e-mailed to [PatentPractice@uspto.gov](mailto:PatentPractice@uspto.gov), or directed to the Inventors' Assistance Center (formerly the Patent Assistance Center (PAC)) by telephone at 800-786-9199 or 703-308-4357.

Date: 3/1/05

Signed: /s/  
JOSEPH J. ROLLA  
Deputy Commissioner  
for Patent Examination Policy