

Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences First Annual Board Conference

Agenda for Tuesday, April 7, 2010

8:00 – 8:45 | **Registration**

(continental breakfast)

8:45 – 9:15 | **State of the Board**

***Speaker:* Chief Judge Michael Fleming**

Chief Judge Fleming will provide an update on changes within the Board's organization, its efforts to keep up with a growing workload, and its transition to a judicial model.

9:15 – 10:15 | **A View Behind the Curtain**

***Speakers:* Vice Chief Judge James Moore, Vice Chief Judge Allen MacDonald, Judge Ken Hairston, Judge Murriel Crawford**

Judges from the Board will provide insights on the decision-making process (determining the issue, findings of fact, weighing the evidence), the role of judges to review for error, and the deliberation process among the panel members.

10:15 – 11:15 | **Practice Tips: Top Ten Mistakes**

***Moderator:* Judge Linda Horner; *Panelists:* Gary Harkcom, Greenblum & Bernstein, P.L.C., Chief Judge Michael Fleming, Judge Jack Jeffery, Judge Sally Lane**

Panelists will discuss the top ten mistakes Appellants make when they appear before the Board, including a discussion of how to file briefs that are compliant with the Board's rules.

11:15 – 11:30 | **Break**

11:30 – 12:30 | **Winning Your Non-Obviousness Case at the Board**

***Speakers:* Michael Messinger, Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox P.L.L.C. and Charles Van Horn, Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner LLP**

Panelists will discuss how to properly and persuasively present evidence by way of affidavits.

12:30 – 1:00 | **Lunch**

1:00 – 1:30 | **Luncheon Speaker**

Under Secretary of Commerce for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent & Trademark Office, David Kappos (*invited*)

1:30 – 1:45 | **Break**

1:45 – 3:15 | **Inter Partes Reexam**

***Moderator:* Stephen Kunin, Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, L.L.P.;**

***Panelists:* Brad Pedersen, Patterson, Thuente, Skaar & Christensen, P.A., Todd Baker, Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, L.L.P., Gregory Morse, USPTO Central Reexam Unit**

Panelists will discuss recent improvements to the inter partes reexamination process and provide an overview of the entire process.

3:15 – 3:30 | **Break**

3:30 – 4:30 | **Panel with Federal Circuit Judge(s) – Role of the Board**

***Moderator:* Teresa Rea, Crowell & Moring LLP**

***Panelists:* The Honorable Paul R. Michel, Chief Circuit Judge for the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; The Honorable Randal R. Rader, Circuit Judge for the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit; Michael R. Fleming, Chief Judge of the BPAI**

Judges from the Federal Circuit and Chief Judge Fleming will participate in a moderated panel discussion on the role of the Board in the development and advancement of the patent system.

4:30 – 4:35 | **Closing Remarks**