

Library

# Start Your Business: Draft a Patent Application

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June 10, 2020



# Overview

- Patent and Trademark Resource Center with Azalea Ebbay
- San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, Inc. with Roya Bagheri
- Learn How to Draft a Patent Application with Paul Yen

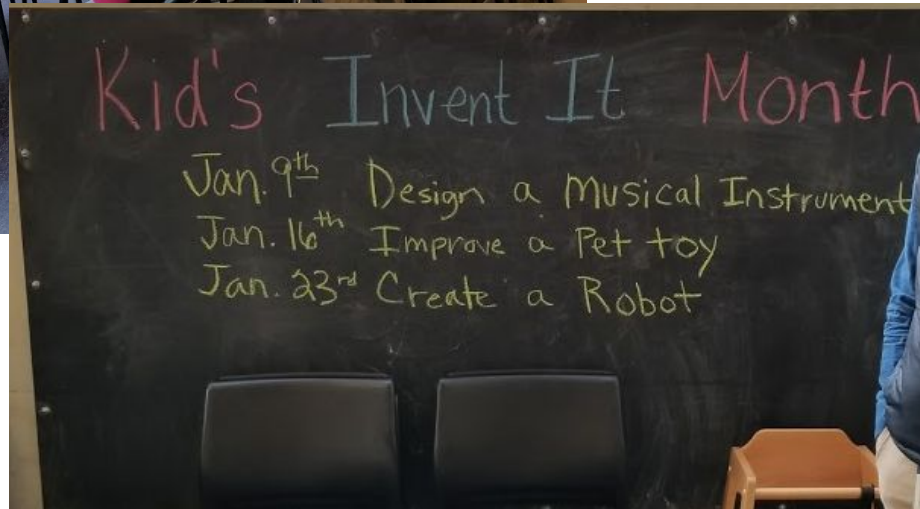
# Patent and Trademark Resource Center

- Provide free access to patent and trademark resources provided by the USPTO
- Direct you to information and explain the application process and fee schedule
- Demonstrate how to use patent and trademark search tools
- Show you a directory of local patent attorneys and agents who are licensed to practice before the USPTO
- Assists with patent searches for an ancestor's inventions
- Offers free educational programs

Note: We cannot provide business or legal advice. We cannot perform patent or trademark searches.



**2019 Start Your Business event  
with San Diego Volunteer Lawyer  
Program, Inc. and Procopio**

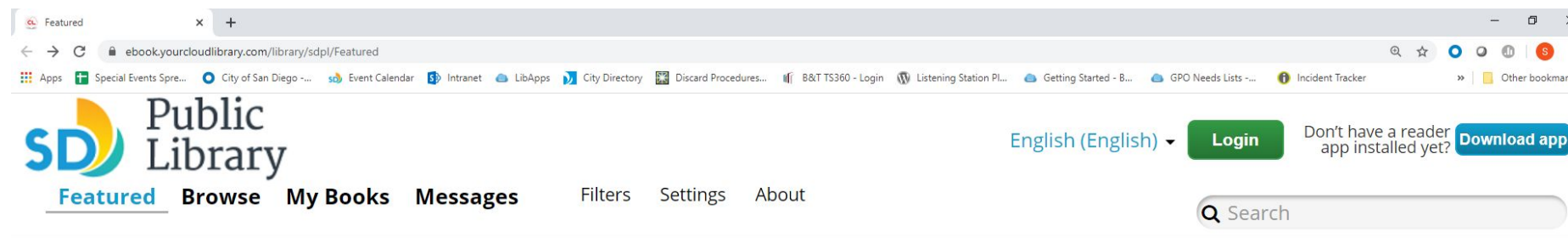


Kid's Invent It Month, a children's themed program



Teaching patents to high school students for UCSD Rady School of Management's LaunchPad program





You can borrow free small business eBooks with your library card on CloudLibrary.

You can also pick up your holds at select San Diego Public Library locations.

# Contactless Pickup Service

## at the San Diego Public Library

**11 LOCATIONS · WEEKDAYS · 10:30 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.**  
**BEGINS TUESDAY, MAY 26**

- Carmel Valley
- College-Rolando
- La Jolla/Riford
- Logan Heights
- Mira Mesa
- Mission Hills-Hillcrest/Knox
- Mission Valley
- Point Loma/Hervey
- Rancho Bernardo
- San Ysidro
- Valencia Park/Malcolm X

**sandiego.gov/pickupservice**

Our Final Event with the U.S.P.T.O.

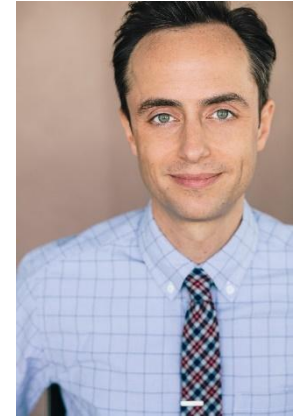
## Trademark Application Walk-through with Jason Lott

**Date:** June 17th

**Time:** 2-3:30 p.m. PST

**Registration website:**

<https://sandiego.librarymarket.com/events/start-your-business-trademark-application-walk-through-webex-event>



### Any questions?

**Azalea Ebbay, San Diego Public Library**

[AEbbay@sandiego.gov](mailto:AEbbay@sandiego.gov)

(619) 238-6683

*San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, Inc.*

# **Microbusiness and Nonprofit Support Program (MNSP)**



SAN DIEGO  
**VOLUNTEER LAWYER**  
PROGRAM

*Pursuing justice | Transforming lives*

# San Diego Volunteer Lawyer Program, Inc.

SDVLP is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit law firm that has provided free legal help to disadvantaged San Diegans since 1983.

## Microbusiness and Nonprofit Support Program:

Provides free legal services to:

- qualifying entrepreneurs and microbusinesses in San Diego, and
- nonprofit organizations whose primary purpose is to serve disadvantaged, low-income San Diegans.



# Microbusiness Support:

Staff and volunteer attorneys provide legal help in a variety of transactional legal areas, including:

- Business Entity Formation (LLCs, Partnerships, Sole Proprietorships, etc.)
- Review and Drafting of Business Contracts
- Lease Agreements
- Intellectual Property (Trademarks, Copyrights and Patents)
- Employment Issues
- Insurance
- Permitting

# Microbusiness Application and Eligibility:

- Application is available on our website: [www.sdvlp.org](http://www.sdvlp.org)
- Individual must be low-income and a resident of San Diego County. We will evaluate an individual's financial situation as well as all business partners.
- In some cases, if you are starting a new business, we will need to see a business plan.

# Microbusiness Support Screening Form



**IMPORTANT:** Due to limited resources, we can only help residents of San Diego County. If you do not live in San Diego County, please do not complete this form. There may be similar assistance available where you live.

**IMPORTANTE:** Debido a los recursos limitados, sólo podemos ayudar a los residentes del Condado de San Diego. Si usted no vive en el Condado de San Diego, favor de no llenar este formulario. Es posible que haya una asistencia similar disponible donde usted vive.

Please do not complete this form if you are seeking help for a nonprofit organization. Please [click here](#) to download the Application for Legal Services for nonprofit organizations.

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## Your information / Su información

First Name / Nombre \*

Middle Name / Segundo Nombre

Last Name(s) / Apellido(s) \*

Maiden Name or Other Name(s) Used / Apellido de Soltera u otros nombres utilizados

How did you hear about SDVLP's legal services? / ¿Cómo se enteró de los servicios legales de SDVLP?

Date of Birth / Fecha de Nacimiento \*

Last 4 digits of your Social Security Number / Últimos cuatro números de seguro social

## MNSP Process:

- If you are deemed eligible for our services, we will discuss your business and issue spot the potential legal issues.
- We will reach out to pro bono attorneys to place your case with a subject matter expert.
- You will work one-on-one with your assigned pro bono attorney.
- SDVLP remains involved throughout the process until the case is fully completed.

# Microbusiness Support:

- Intellectual Property:
  - Trademarks:
    - Assist entrepreneurs with protecting the name and logo of their business.
  - Copyrights:
    - Assist entrepreneurs protect their own original works of authorship, and properly use other copyrighted work.
    - For example: A catering business using photographs that other people took for their website.
  - Patents:
    - Will assign a patent attorney to assist entrepreneur with entire patent application, including designs, filing, and follow up communication with USPTO.



# COVID-19 Small Business Brief Legal Advice Clinic

- Our program just launched a brief legal advice clinic to assist small businesses and nonprofit organizations impacted by the pandemic.
- Volunteer attorneys will provide remote consultations to eligible businesses on legal issues arising out of the pandemic, including questions relating to:
  - Labor and Employment
  - Real Estate/Commercial Leases
  - Insurance
  - Contracts
  - Tax Law
  - Paycheck Protection Program
  - SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans/Grants
  - Small Business Debt Relief Program
  - Business Operations (e.g., operating as an essential business)
  - Bankruptcy/Restructuring
  - Other COVID-19 Related Questions

# COVID-19 Small Business Brief Legal Advice Clinic

- Consultations will last up to 45 minutes, and are provided free of charge.
- Small Businesses can apply at: [SDVLP.ORG/COVID-19-MNSP](https://SDVLP.ORG/COVID-19-MNSP)
- Or Call: (619) 235-5656 ext. 130

# Questions?

Roya Bagheri, Esq.  
Staff Attorney  
[rbagheri@sdvlp.org](mailto:rbagheri@sdvlp.org)  
(619) 235-5656, ext. 131

UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

The logo for the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO). It features the lowercase letters "uspto" in a bold, orange, sans-serif font. The letters are contained within a white rounded rectangle. The "u" and "s" are on the left, "p" is in the middle, and "t" and "o" are on the right. The "p" and "t" have a vertical line that extends downwards from the bottom of the rectangle.

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# Utility Patent Application Disclosure Drafting

Paul Yen, Primary patent examiner  
June 10, 2020

UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE





# Objectives

- Contents of a Patent application disclosure
  - Detailed Description
  - Drawing
  - Abstract
  - Claims
- Enablement Requirement
- Limitations of claims can be modified based only on the disclosed invention at the time of filing
- Important to capture the invention using clear and consistent language throughout the disclosure

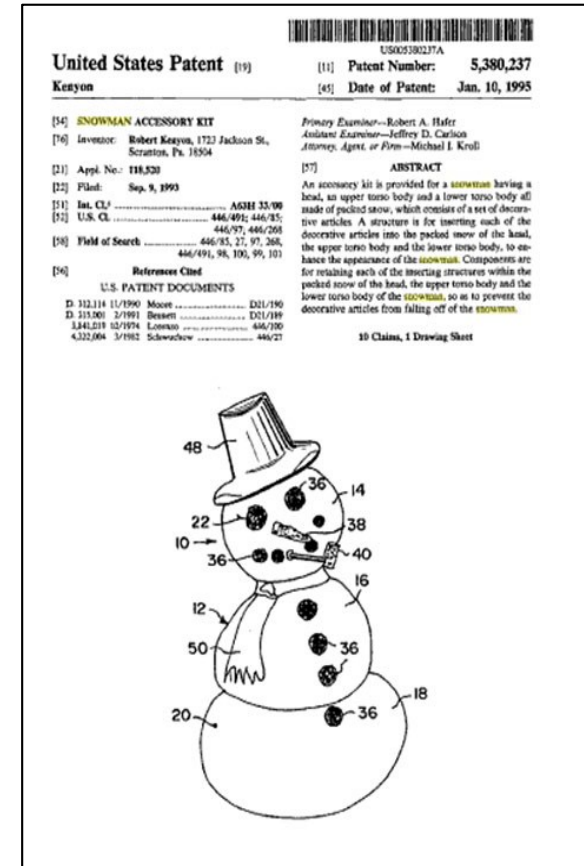
# Utility Applications

## Provisional

- Not examined or published
- One-year time limit
- Only for utility

## Non-Provisional

- Examined: claims required, written description must meet requirements
- Published
  - 18 months from earliest filing date
  - Unless request for non-publication at filing
- Can become a patent



# Provisional Patent Application Requirements

Law Requires:

- Clear indication that applicant is filing a provisional application
- Fee
- Description of the invention must enable someone to make and use the invention
- Drawing if necessary to understand the invention



# Provisional Patent Application Requirements (cont'd)

Cover Sheet provides a clear indication that applicant is filing a provisional form PTO/SB/16

- Inventor name(s)
- Inventor residence(s)
- Title of the invention
- Correspondence address
- Attorney information (if any)
- U.S. government interest (if any)



# Provisional Patent Application Coversheet

PTO/SB/16 (03-13)  
Approved for use through 01/31/2014. OMB 0651-0032  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

## PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET – Page 1 of 2

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53(c).

Express Mail Label No. _____		
INVENTOR(S)		
Given Name (first and middle (if any))	Family Name or Surname	Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)
Additional inventors are being named on the _____ separately numbered sheets attached hereto.		
TITLE OF THE INVENTION (500 characters max):		
Direct all correspondence to: CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS		
<input type="checkbox"/> The address corresponding to Customer Number: _____		
OR		
<input type="checkbox"/> Firm or _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual Name _____		
Address _____		
City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Country _____	Telephone _____	Email _____
ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (check all that apply)		
<input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76.	<input type="checkbox"/> CD(s), Number of CDs _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) Number of Sheets _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Specification (e.g., description of the invention) Number of Pages _____		
Fees Due: Filing fee of \$260 (\$130 for small entity) (\$65 for micro entity). If the specification and drawings exceed 100 sheets of paper, an application size fee is also due, which is \$400 (\$200 for small entity) (\$100 for micro entity) for each additional 50 sheets or fraction thereof. See 35 U.S.C. 41(a)(1)(G) and 37 CFR 1.16(i).		
METHOD OF PAYMENT OF THE FILING FEE AND APPLICATION SIZE FEE FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT		
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant asserts small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant certifies micro entity status. See 37 CFR 1.29.		
Applicant must attach form PTO/SB/15A or B or equivalent.		
<input type="checkbox"/> A check or money order made payable to the Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office is enclosed to cover the filing fee and application size fee (if applicable).		
TOTAL FEE AMOUNT (\$) _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2030 is attached.		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge the filing fee and application size fee (if applicable) or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number: _____		

USE ONLY FOR FILING A PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT  
This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.53. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 10 hours to complete, including

PTO/SB/16 (03-13)  
Approved for use through 01/31/2014. OMB 0651-0032  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

## PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET – Page 2 of 2

The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.	
<input type="checkbox"/> No.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the invention was made by an agency of the U.S. Government. The U.S. Government agency name is: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the invention was made under a contract with an agency of the U.S. Government. The name of the U.S. Government agency and Government contract number are: _____	

### WARNING:

Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers [other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes] is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application) or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

TYPED OR PRINTED NAME \_\_\_\_\_ REGISTRATION NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
(if appropriate)

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DOCKET NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

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# Provisional v. Non-Provisional

- **Provisional**

- Automatically abandoned after one year period
- no claims required
- written disclosure must meet same requirements as non-provisional
- Note: provisional applications are not allowed for design patent applications

- **Non-Provisional**

- At least one claim required
- written disclosure must meet requirements of 35 USC 112 1<sup>st</sup> paragraph (pre AIA), or 35 USC 112(a) paragraph (post AIA).
- Examined for patentability, can result in a patent.

35 USC 112 (1)/(a): The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same, and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor or joint inventor of carrying out the invention.

# Non-provisional (Utility) Patent Application Filing Guide

- A non-provisional utility patent application must include a specification, including a description and a claim or claims; drawings, when necessary; an oath or declaration; and the prescribed filing, search, and examination fees.
- Online Guide: <http://www.uspto.gov/patents-getting-started/patent-basics/types-patent-applications/nonprovisional-utility-patent>
- File Wrapper Images of published or patented applications: <http://portal.uspto.gov/pair/PublicPair>

# Specification

- Written description of the invention
- How to make and use the invention
- Clear, full, concise, and exact terms to allow any person skilled in the technology of the invention to make and use the invention
- At least one specific embodiment
- Concludes with at least one claim (must begin on a new page)

# Specification Page Format

- The specification, including the abstract and claims, must have lines that are 1.5 or double-spaced in a single column of text
- Written on only one side in portrait orientation
- 8.5 by 11 inches with all margins of at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches except for a left side margin of at least 1 inch
- The application pages must be numbered consecutively (centrally located above or below the text) starting with page one
- Nonscript font (e.g., Arial, Times Roman, or Courier), preferably with a font size of 12

# Specification Sections

- Title of the Invention (short and specific)
- Most common applicable sections
  - Background (e.g., state of the art before your invention)
  - Brief Summary of the Invention
  - Brief Description of the Drawings (list of all figures by number with brief statement of what the figure depicts)
  - Detailed Description of the Invention
- Claims (on a separate sheet)
- Abstract (less than 150 words, one paragraph, on separate sheet)

# Title of the Invention

- The title should be short and specific in describing the invention.
  - Think of the title as the quick description of your invention
  - Avoid generic language such as “system and method for...”
  - Should allow a reader to readily ascertain what your invention is

# Lesser used sections

- Cross reference to related applications
  - Include if you are filing a continuation or divisional or claiming priority to a provisional application
- Statement regarding federally sponsored research
- Names of parties to a joint research agreement
- Incorporation by reference of material submitted via compact disk or text file
- Statement regarding prior disclosure by the inventor or a join inventor
- Sequence listing

# Background of the Invention

- Field of invention
  - Describe at a high level the areas pertinent to your invention.
- Description of Related Art
  - Describe what you know has been done before
  - Describe the problems that lead you to come up with your invention
  - Describe what prior art you know about



# Brief Summary of the Invention

- Describe at a high level your invention
- Describe the problems you solve using your invention
- Describe what makes your invention special/different
- Describe what your invention does

# Brief Description of the Drawings

- If drawings (e.g., figures or flow diagrams) are part of the application papers, this section needs to be provided before the application is considered complete and released from initial processing
- This section must include a brief statement of what each figure depicts (e.g. a front view of the invention, an expanded view of the elements prior to assembly)

# Drawings

- Part of disclosure of the invention, and are required if necessary to understand the invention
  - A drawing necessary to understand the invention cannot be introduced after the filing date
- Must show every feature of the invention claimed
- Must contain as many views as necessary to show the invention

## **37 CFR 1.84: Two acceptable standards for Drawings:**

- 1: Black and white drawings are normally required for utility and design applications
- 2: Color drawings are permitted in design applications

# Drawing Requirements

- Black and white drawings; lines; numbers heavy enough to permit adequate reproduction
- Use reference characters (in specification and drawings; numerals preferred)
- Each Figure must be labeled (e.g., FIG. 1)
- Avoid using descriptive words in the Figures

# Abstract

- Starts on a separate sheet with the Heading “Abstract”
- Must be 150 words or less; 1.5 or double spaced
- Narrative form; single paragraph
- Points out what is new in the technology
- Not a repeat of the claim(s) or Brief Summary
- Written to enable the public to quickly determine the nature of the technical disclosures of the invention

**See MPEP § 608.01(b) for more information**

# Detailed Description of the Invention

- Very important part of the application
- Explain the invention and the process of making and using it in full, clear, concise and exact terms.
- Focus on explaining the structures, processes or compositions of the invention.
- Refer to the figures, if applicable, and explain the different parts by use of reference numerals shown in the figures.

See MPEP § 608.01(g) for more information

# Detailed Description of the Invention

- The detailed description should provide clear support or antecedent basis for all terms used in the claims so that the meaning of the claim terms in the claims may be ascertainable by reference to the description.
- It can be helpful to draft your claims first.
  - By drafting the claims first, you can decide on the terminology to use and make sure that terminology is consistent throughout the specification.
  - You can also figure out which terms need to be defined or explained in more detail in the specification.
  - The claims can be a checklist to make sure the detailed description provides clear support for the claims.

# Specification DOs

- ✓ Describe the invention clearly to allow any person skilled in the art to make and use the invention without undue experimentation
- ✓ When referencing the drawings, be sure that each reference numeral is used for only one part depicted in the drawings, and that each reference numeral shown in the drawings is mentioned in the specification
- ✓ Provide at least one specific embodiment, including the best one known to you at the time of filing
- ✓ Make sure there is a "Brief Description of the Drawings" section that includes each figure referenced by its full label (e.g., Figures labeled 1A, 1B, and 1C should be separately mentioned vs. collectively referred to as "Figure 1" in the brief description)
- ✓ Provide proper antecedent basis for all the terms in the claims
- ✓ Focus on the technical features of the invention



# Specification Cautions

- ✗ Should not use trademarks in the title or to describe structure (e.g., "VELCRO" to describe a hook and loop fastener), or using a mark (e.g. logo, brand) you intend to register for a commercialized product
- ✗ "Background of the Invention" section does not need to state how the inventor conceived the invention (e.g., "I came up with this idea while jogging")
- ✗ Avoid making claims of possible future success (e.g., "This invention will sell and make millions" or "This invention will revolutionize the field")
- ✗ Do not include a detailed discussion of the figures or refer to the reference characters in the "Brief Description of the Drawings" section
- ✗ Do not forget to proof read your specification to look for grammatical errors

# Claim(s)

If it is in the claim, it **must** be in the specification:

- Defines the invention and what aspects are legally enforceable
- Must conform to the invention as set forth in the remainder of the specification
- Terms and phrases used in the claims must find clear support or antecedent basis in the description so that the meaning of the terms in the claims are clearly understood by reference to the description

# Form of Claim(s)

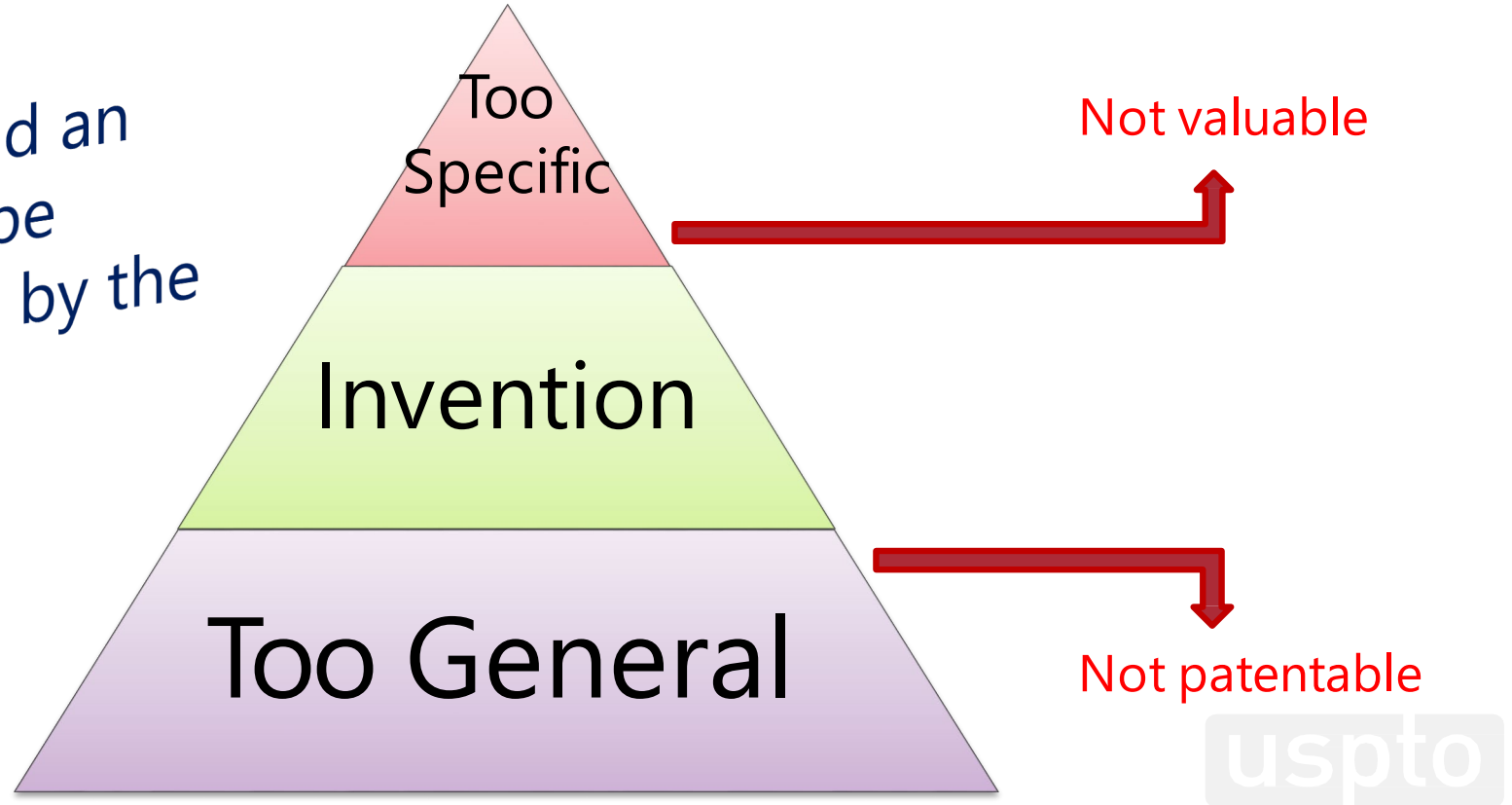
- Starts on a separate sheet with the Heading "Claim Listing"
- 1.5 or double spaced
- Each claim is a single sentence (begins with a capital letter and ends with a period)
- 3 independent claims; 20 claims total before excess fees are due
- Numbered consecutively in ascending order; original numbering preserved throughout prosecution

# U.S. Patent Law Requirements

- A non-provisional patent application must
  - Have at least one claim particularly pointing out and distinctly defining the invention
- A claim may be written in independent or dependent form
- A dependent claim refers to a claim previously set forth and then further limits the claimed invention
- A claim in dependent form incorporates by reference all the limitations of the claim to which it refers

# Claims

How should an invention be delineated by the claims?



# Before Drafting Claims

Prior to writing claim answer these questions:

- What is the invention?
- What are the pieces and parts that make up the invention?
- How do the pieces and parts relate to one another?
- Do you have more than one invention?
  - Tangible: Apparatus, machine, composition
  - Method: Making or Using
- Are there multiple versions of each invention?

# Thinking Strategically

- What is it that you are hoping to accomplish
  - Obtain the broadest, valid claim possible
  - Obtain claims with a variety of claim scope
  - Not just at time of filing, but during prosecution
- Are at least some claims you filed likely to be patentable without amendment?
  - 35 USC § 154(d) provisional rights

# Thinking Strategically

- How much can you afford to spend on claims?
  - Independent in excess of 3 = \$115 per claim (Subject to change)
  - Total claims in excess of 20 = \$25 per claim (Subject to change)
  - Not just at time of filing, but during prosecution

**Note: All of the above costs are for micro-entity**



# Claim Drafting

A claim in a Utility application or patent has three (3) main parts:

1. A preamble or the introduction;
2. A transitional phrase, such as:
  - "comprising" (open);
  - "consisting of" (closed)
3. A body reciting the elements of the invention.

# Claim Drafting (continued)

## Transitional Phrases in Patent Claims: Comprising vs. Consisting of

- “Comprising” or “which comprises”
  - Most commonly used
  - Open ended
  - Claim encompasses all of the listed elements and may more
- “Consisting of”
  - Close ended
  - Claim elements are limited to as listed and no more

# Example Claim:

A shovel comprising:  
a handle; and  
a blade having a point thereon.

A shovel



Preamble

comprising:



Transitional  
Phrase

a handle; and  
a blade having a point thereon.



Body

# Claim Drafting DOs

- ✓ Particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention
- ✓ Consider drafting your claims first and then your specification based on terms used in the claims
- ✓ Review both to make necessary additions and corrections so that the claim terms find support in the specification
- ✓ Look at the claims in patents issued in your field of technology
- ✓ Ensure each term has proper antecedent basis
- ✓ Think about what legal protection you need for your invention and tailor your claims accordingly

# Claim Drafting Cautions

- ✗ Do not use claims covering two statutory classes of invention ("A widget and method for using same...")
- ✗ Do not use terms inconsistently between the claims and/or specification (e.g. visor, visor member, visor section; removable visor portion)
- ✗ Do not write multi-sentence claims
- ✗ Do not refer back to only a portion of another claim in a dependent claim (e.g., "The widget of the apparatus of claim 1...")
- ✗ Do not "replace" elements from another claim within a dependent claim

# Outreach Services

- Walk-in services to obtain information about the USPTO
- Workstations for searching patents and trademarks
- A regional focus for workshops, just-in-time training, conferences and roundtables (at all levels)
- A hearing room to host Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) and Trademark Trial and Appeal Board (TTAB) proceedings – including remote access to hearings taking place in Alexandria or elsewhere
- Interview rooms to connect applicants to patent examiners working in Alexandria and across the country
- Remote Training Capability from local experts to all patent examiners working in their specialized technical fields
- Office hours for strategic partners like Small Business Development Centers and the Export Assistance Center

# Resources

Helpline: 1-800-PTO-9199

Utility Patent Application Guide	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/patents/resources/types/utility.jsp">www.uspto.gov/patents/resources/types/utility.jsp</a>
Patent Process	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/patents/process">www.uspto.gov/patents/process</a>
Patent Search Guide	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/patents/process/search">www.uspto.gov/patents/process/search</a>
Trademark Assistance Center and Help Videos	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/trademarks">www.uspto.gov/trademarks</a>
IP Awareness Assessment Tool	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/assessment">www.uspto.gov/inventors/assessment</a>
Inventor and Entrepreneur Resources	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/inventors">www.uspto.gov/inventors</a>
Pro Se Assistance	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/patents-getting-started/using-legal-services/pro-se-assistance-program">www.uspto.gov/patents-getting-started/using-legal-services/pro-se-assistance-program</a>
Micro Entity Limit	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/PatentMicroentity">www.uspto.gov/PatentMicroentity</a>
Patent Pro Bono help and video	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/inventors/proseprobono">www.uspto.gov/inventors/proseprobono</a>
First Inventor to File	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/aia_implementation/patents.jsp#heading-10">www.uspto.gov/aia_implementation/patents.jsp#heading-10</a>
Law School Clinic Program	<a href="http://www.uspto.gov/learning-and-resources/ip-policy/public-information-about-practitioners/law-school-clinic-1">www.uspto.gov/learning-and-resources/ip-policy/public-information-about-practitioners/law-school-clinic-1</a>

# Office of Innovation Development

- In Person Assistance (by appointment) for Pro Se Applicants
- Assistance Hotline 1-866-767-3848
- Patent Email Support  
[innovationdevelopment@uspto.gov](mailto:innovationdevelopment@uspto.gov)
- PTRC Partnership for Patent Education Courses
- Inventor Outreach
  - Independent Inventor Conferences
  - Education for Inventor Organizations
- <http://www.uspto.gov/inventors>



The background of the slide is a technical drawing, likely a patent illustration, showing a cross-section of a mechanical or electronic assembly. It features various components, surfaces, and edges, with numerous numerical callouts (e.g., 80, 84, 86, 40, 36, 22, 26, 68, 50) indicating specific parts or dimensions. The drawing is rendered in a light gray line-art style.

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