

**UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**



FY 2020 to FY 2021 Patent and PTAB data and training

Stefanos Karmis

Director, Office of Patent Quality Assurance
February 11, 2021

Patent Public Advisory Committee quarterly meeting

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Patents and PTAB data 2020

- Patent Trial and Appeal Board (PTAB) final decision tables
 - Provide detailed information about the PTAB's ruling on each individual rejection and claim
 - Statute-based data collection is more granular and consistent with Patents' data collection
- Patents' survey of PTAB judges
 - Survey conducted to get feedback from PTAB judges on examiner work products



Patents and PTAB data 2021

- Focus on data collection that assists with developing improvement strategies
 - PTAB decisions: more specific data on reasons why a rejection(s) is reversed at the PTAB
 - Examiner's answers: collect data on the quality of write-ups and arguments being sent to the PTAB
 - Review form developed with input from PTAB judges
 - Post grant decisions: collect data on the use of prior art in post grant trials

Patents and PTAB training 2020

- Patents and the PTAB partner in several ways that are beneficial for examiner training
 - Quarterly webinars with PTAB judges on select topics
 - Detail assignments
 - Hearing viewing

Patents and PTAB training 2021

- Training
 - Continue training collaboration efforts from FY 2020 and incorporate new data collected into future trainings
- Post grant outcomes
 - Examiners now required to consider prior art documents from this program during examination of related or pending/child applications

Additional areas of focus

- FY 2021 compliance data trending higher
 - Continue to monitor compliance and perception data
- **Impacts of current/future initiatives on quality**
 - New examiner performance appraisal plan
 - New search tool
 - Combined patent classification and auto-routing

Questions and comments



Thank you!

Stefanos Karmis

Director, Office of Patent
Quality Assurance

Stefanos.Karmis@uspto.gov

(571) 272-6744

www.uspto.gov