

November 5, 2014

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member Grassley:

INTA wishes to express our support for the nomination of Michelle K. Lee to be the next Under Secretary for Intellectual Property and Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Department of Commerce. We applaud the President's decision to nominate Ms. Lee given her impressive qualifications and in-depth experience which is necessary for the USPTO to advance its strategic objectives of protecting intellectual property and promoting innovation.

Ms. Lee's experience and professional career demonstrate that she has a deep understanding of intellectual property law and with over two decades of experience she would make an outstanding leader in promoting and protecting the nation's intellectual property. In addition, Ms. Lee brings decades of legal, technical and business experience as a patent lawyer combined with extensive experience with the legal and management issues that arise at the USPTO. As the Deputy Director of the USPTO, she encouraged progress and technological advancement while promoting both business and consumer interests. Ms. Lee's vast experience in intellectual property, her reputation for hard work and her demonstrated abilities as the current Deputy Under Secretary of Commerce and Deputy Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, makes her the ideal candidate to advance the USPTO's core mission of serving the public in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. We are convinced that Ms. Lee will continue to make the USPTO even more efficient while also improving the quality of trademark examination and performance goals.

The USPTO is in immediate need of permanent leadership, and we thus urge the Committee to take action on the confirmation process as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Mei-lan Stark
President