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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

UNIFIED PATENTS INC. Petitioner v. WIRELESS MONITORING SYSTEMS LLC Patent Owner

> IPR2018-00027 Patent 9,280,886

JOINT MOTION TO DISMISS AND TERMINATE THE PROCEEDING UNDER 37 CFR § 42.71(a)

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 42.71(a), Petitioner Unified Patents Inc. ("Unified" or "Petitioner") and Patent Owner Wireless Monitoring Systems LLC ("Patent Owner") jointly request termination of the *Inter Partes* Review of U.S. Patent 9,280,886 in IPR2018-00027.

Petitioner and Patent Owner have entered into a written confidential settlement agreement that fully resolves all underlying disputes between the parties, including IPR2018-00027 against U.S. Patent 9,280,886. The Parties are concurrently filing a copy of the Settlement Agreement as EX1012 along with a request to treat it as confidential business information pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 317(b). The undersigned represents that there are no other agreements, oral or written, between the parties made in connection with, or in contemplation of, the termination of the present proceeding and that EX1012 represents a true and accurate copy of the agreement between the parties that resolves the present proceeding.

On June 19, 2018, the Parties informed the Board of the settlement via e-mail and requested authorization to file a joint motion to terminate the proceeding with respect to both the Patent Owner and the Petitioner. As set forth in an e-mail dated June 21, 2018, the Board authorized the filing of the requested joint motion to terminate this proceeding as to both parties. Accordingly, Petitioner and Patent Owner jointly request termination of the present proceeding.

Public policy favors dismissing and terminating the present *inter* partes review petition. Congress and federal courts have expressed a strong interest in encouraging settlement in litigation. See, e.g., Delta Air Lines, Inc. v. August, 450 U.S. 346, 352 (1981) ("The purpose of [Fed. R. Civ. P.] 68 is to encourage the settlement of litigation."); Bergh v. Dept. of Transp., 794 F.2d 1575, 1577 (Fed. Cir. 1986) ("The law favors settlement of cases."), cert. denied, 479 U.S. 950 (1986). The Federal Circuit places a particularly strong emphasis on settlement. See Chevenne River Sioux Tribe v. U.S., 806 F.2d 1046, 1050 (Fed. Cir. 1986) (noting that the law favors settlement to reduce antagonism and hostility between parties). And, the Board's Trial Practice Guide stresses that "[t]here are strong public policy reasons to favor settlement between the parties." Office Patent Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. 48,756, 46,768 (Aug. 14, 2012).

Dismissing this IPR petition and terminating review early promotes the Congressional goal of establishing a more efficient patent system by limiting unnecessary and counterproductive costs. *See* Changes to Implement Inter Partes Review Proceedings, Post-Grant Review Proceedings, and Transitional Program for Covered Business Method Patents, 77 Fed. Reg. 48,680 (Aug. 14, 2012).

Additionally, dismissing of this IPR is appropriate as the Board has not yet "decided the merits of the proceeding." See, e.g., Office Patent Trial Practice Guide, 77 Fed. Reg. 48756, 48768 (Aug. 14, 2012). Unified filed its petition for inter partes review on October 6, 2017. The Board instituted trial on April 11, 2018. No depositions have taken place and neither the Patent Owner nor the Petitioner have submitted any substantive briefing post-institution. The parties have now settled their dispute, and have reached agreement to dismiss this *inter partes* review petition and terminate its consideration. The USPTO can conserve its resources through terminating the proceedings now, removing the need for the Board to further consider the arguments, to issue an Institution Decision, or to render a Final Decision. Furthermore, no other party's rights will be prejudiced by the termination of this proceeding.

The related cases at the district court, which were previously listed in the mandatory notices, are either in the process of, or have all been, administratively terminated.

Therefore, Petitioner and Patent Owner request termination of the Inter Partes Review IPR2018-00027 of U.S. Patent 9,280,886. Date: July 2, 2018

Respectfully submitted,

<u>/Evelyn C. Mak/</u> Evelyn C. Mak, Reg. No. 50,492 Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

/RABaker/

Richard A. Baker, Reg. No. 48,124 New England Intellectual Property, LLC

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