

Summary of an Examiner Interview

An Examiner Interview was conducted between Examiner Michael P. Cohen, Supervisory Examiner Fredrick Krass, and Advocate for the Applicants, Mark A. Buese, Ph.D., on February 12, 2013. The nature of the disclosure of Valenti *et al.* and why those skilled in the art would not conclude that the instant invention is taught or suggested by that disclosure was discussed. Advocate presented Applicants' position concerning the obviousness of polymer modification to form a homopolymers with one or more biologically active molecules on every repeating unit, holding that those skilled in the art do not consider polymer modification a viable way of preparing the instant homopolymers. Examiners indicated that presentation of the teaching in polymer chemistry textbooks against such polymer reaction would constitute evidence that those skilled in the art would not consider the drug binding disclosed in Valenti *et al.* as suggesting the modification of the polyalcohol polymer to yield a homopolymer of the instant claimed invention.