



# Greenblum & Bernstein, P.L.C.

## CLIENT ADVISORY

### Recent Changes in Rules and Procedures

**September 16, 2011**

## America Invents Act signed by President Obama

Dear Clients:

The U.S. Patent Reform Bill, termed "The America Invents Act," was signed by President Obama on September 16, 2011, making it the first substantial patent law revision since the 1950s. The most significant aspects of the new law were summarized in our client advisory sent to you last week, and are also available on our website via the following link:

<http://www.gbpatent.com/headlines/america-invents-act-signed-by-president-obama/>

As we indicated previously, a surcharge of 15% is to be imposed on most patent fees, including those associated with the filing, issuance, and maintenance of patents/patent applications. According to a provision of the Act, the fee surcharge is to take effect within 10 calendar days after the date of enactment (i.e., on September 26, 2011).

Therefore, you may wish to pay any upcoming fees, such as issue fees, or file any new applications, continuation applications or Requests for Continued Examination (RCE), before the fee surcharge goes into effect. Should you wish to pay any upcoming fees or file any applications early, please give us your instructions as soon as possible. **Please note that we will not pay any fees or file any applications early unless we receive specific instructions from you to do so.**

We are monitoring the availability of the new patent fees from the USPTO and will send you our revised schedule of charges, incorporating all of the changes, in the near future.

Best regards,

GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.

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