

Message from Lynne Beresford

To Trademark Examining Attorneys:

I will be holding a question and answer session next Wednesday, March 4, at 1 o'clock in the Madison North Auditorium to address any examining attorney concerns that may have arisen as a result of management's decision to reduce the production bonus to \$1250 for this quarter. This meeting is simply an opportunity to discuss the current situation. I will not be making any new announcements. The meeting will be webcast for those of you who chose to work at home that day. If you have questions that you would like to submit in advance, please send them to me before Wednesday.

As I said in my earlier e-mail the leading economic indicator for Trademark filings is the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). On January 30th, it was announced to the nation that the real GDP for the 4th quarter of 2008 (September through December 2008) fell by 3.8%. A drop of this size generally indicates a severe recession. Additionally, filings through the end of January are 11% less than they were last year at this time. Therefore, the Trademark application filing projection, which in October was 390,000 new classes, has been revised to approximately 363,000 new classes.

I continue to closely monitor filings and completed work. As changes occur in the filing levels, that information will be made available. At this meeting, the Trademark management team and I will be available to answer your questions.

Lynne