



January 5, 2009
Mr. Jim Halpert
Commerce Agency Review Team for
President-elect Obama's Transition

**Re: Independent Inventors
& Small Innovative Concerns**

Dear Mr. Halpert:

Thank you for including *independent inventors and small business concerns* in your agency/policy Review efforts, and more specifically for generously inviting my input and that of other passionate inventor advocates across the country. Our teleconference with your team on December 19, 2008 was a hopeful way of ushering in the new Administration. (See listing of inventor advocate participants on Page 2.)

As directed, I have collected and attached written input from all the teleconference participants interviewed by your panel. The attachments are, for the most part, one-pagers expressing views on particular issues and concerns they see as the greatest challenges confronting independent inventors. In some cases, suggestions for bold initiatives are presented. Each document attached includes a brief explanation of the submitter's past and current role in supporting and nurturing innovators.

I have been associated with the USPTO through a number of transitions, and am aware of no previous attempts by an Administration Transition Team to invite input from our country's most precious national resource, the American Inventor. Following our telephone discussion with you, we all agreed that this is a good sign, a very good sign. Please contact me at any time if I can be of service. You have my very best wishes for great success.

Yours truly,

Don Kelly
Licensed Patent Agent



IAMA
Adding Wings to Great Ideas

**PARTICIPANTS IN TELECONFERENCE WITH TRANSITION TEAM****Don Kelly**

Former USPTO Patent Examiner and former USPTO Chief of staff...founding Director, USPTO's Office of Independent Inventor Programs, and co-founder, United Inventors Assn. (UIA) and Inventors Network of the Capital Area (INCA)

Leo Mazur (Broward Co. FLA)

President, Inventors Society of South Florida...and President of the National Society of Inventor, NJ

Ken Roddy (Houston TX)

Co-founder & President, Houston Inventors Assn.

Don Costar (pronounced *kah-ster*) (Reno NV)

Co-founder, Nevada Inventors Assn.

Bob Hausslein (Boston MA)

President, Inventors Assn. of New England

Kedma Ough (Portland OR)

Director, Micro-enterprise Inventor's Program of Oregon (MIPO)

Gary Nelson * (***Tentative** participant due to possible conflict)

President, Edison Inventors Assn (Ft. Meyers FL)

Deb Hess (Redwood Falls, MN)

Executive Director, Minnesota Inventors Congress

Andrew Krauss (San Francisco/Sacramento/Los Angeles CA)

President, Inventors Alliance