

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

TEADS INC.,
Petitioner,

v.

LONE STAR TARGETED ADVERTISING, LLC,
Patent Owner.

Case IPR2019-00778
Patent 6,301,619 B1

Before MICHELLE N. WORMMEESTER, SCOTT B. HOWARD, and
STEVEN M. AMUNDSON, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

AMUNDSON, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION

Granting Joint Motion to Terminate Proceeding and
Granting Joint Request to File and Keep Settlement Agreement
as Business Confidential Information
35 U.S.C. § 317; 37 C.F.R. §§ 42.72, 42.74

After receiving authorization from the Board, Teads Inc. (“Petitioner”) and Lone Star Targeted Advertising, LLC (“Patent Owner”) filed a Joint Motion to Terminate Proceeding Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 317 and 37 C.F.R. § 42.72. Paper 8. The parties also filed a copy of a Settlement Agreement and Release. Ex. 1005. In addition, the parties filed a Joint Request to File the Settlement Agreement as Business Confidential Information and to Be Kept Separate Under 35 U.S.C. § 317(b) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.74(c). Paper 9.

The parties represent that they “have settled their dispute.” Paper 8, 3. The parties also represent that Exhibit 1005 “is a true copy of the settlement agreement resolving the dispute between the parties” and that “[n]o other agreement exists between the parties.” *Id.* at 4. In addition, the parties represent that termination will “preserve the Board’s and the parties’ resources,” “expeditiously resolve the matter,” and “further the parties’ desire to effectuate the Settlement Agreement reached between them and obviate the need for any more involvement by the Board in this matter.” *Id.* at 3–4.

This proceeding has not progressed very far. Petitioner filed the Petition on March 11, 2019. Patent Owner has not filed a Preliminary Response. The Board has not decided whether to institute an *inter partes* review. Further, “[t]here are strong public policy reasons to favor settlement between the parties to a proceeding.” *Office Patent Trial Practice Guide*, 77 Fed. Reg. 48756, 48768 (Aug. 14, 2012).

Under these circumstances, we determine that it is appropriate to terminate this proceeding. Further, after reviewing the parties’ settlement agreement (Exhibit 1005), we find that it contains confidential business

information regarding the terms of settlement. We determine that it is appropriate to treat the parties' settlement agreement (Exhibit 1005) as business confidential information under 35 U.S.C. § 317(b) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.74(c).

ORDER

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the parties' joint motion to terminate this proceeding is granted;

FURTHER ORDERED that this proceeding is terminated as to all parties;

FURTHER ORDERED that the parties' joint request that their settlement agreement (Exhibit 1005) be treated as business confidential information and kept separate from the file of U.S. Patent No. 6,301,619 B1 under 35 U.S.C. § 317(b) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.74(c) is granted; and

FURTHER ORDERED that the parties' settlement agreement (Exhibit 1005) be treated as business confidential information and be kept separate from the file of U.S. Patent No. 6,301,619 B1 and made available only under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 317(b) and 37 C.F.R. § 42.74(c).

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