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Paper 10
Date: August 29, 2023

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS,
Petitioner,
v.

GENERAL ACCESS SOLUTIONS, INC.,
Patent Owner.

IPR2023-00978
Patent 7,230,931 B2

Before MELISSA A. HAAPALA, *Vice Chief Administrative Patent Judge*, and KEN B. BARRETT and TERRENCE W. MCMILLIN, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

BARRETT, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION
Granting Patent Owner's Motions for Admission *Pro Hac Vice* of
Nosson D. Knobloch and Michael J. Valaik
37 C.F.R. § 42.10

On August 14, 2023, Patent Owner filed motions for admission *pro hac vice* of Nosson D. Knobloch and Michael J. Valaik in this proceeding. Papers 6, 7. The Motions rely on Declarations from Mr. Knobloch and Mr. Valaik. Ex. 2002, 2004. Power of Attorney and Mandatory Notices listing each were filed. Papers 4, 5.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(c), the Board may recognize counsel *pro hac vice* during a proceeding upon a showing of good cause, subject to the condition that lead counsel be a registered practitioner. In its notice authorizing motions for *pro hac vice* admission, the Board requires a statement of facts showing there is good cause for the Board to recognize counsel *pro hac vice* and an affidavit or declaration of the individual seeking to appear in this proceeding. *See* Paper 3, 2 (citing *Unified Patents, Inc. v. Parallel Iron, LLC*, IPR2013-00639, Paper 7 (PTAB 2013) (representative "Order – Authorizing Motion for Pro Hac Vice Admission")).

Based on the facts set forth in the Motions and the accompanying Declarations, we conclude that Mr. Knobloch and Mr. Valaik each has sufficient legal and technical qualifications to represent Patent Owner in these proceedings, that they have demonstrated sufficient familiarity with the subject matter of these proceedings, that they meet all other requirements for admission *pro hac vice*, and that Patent Owner's intent to be represented by counsel with litigation experience is warranted. Accordingly, Patent Owner has established good cause for *pro hac vice* admission of Mr. Knobloch and Mr. Valaik, who will be permitted to serve only as back-up counsel. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(c).

ORDER

It is:

ORDERED that Patent Owner's motion for *pro hac vice* admission of Nosson D. Knobloch is *granted*, and Mr. Knobloch is authorized to represent Patent Owner only as back-up counsel in this proceeding;

ORDERED that Patent Owner's motion for *pro hac vice* admission of Michael J. Valaik is *granted*, and Mr. Valaik is authorized to represent Patent Owner only as back-up counsel in this proceeding;

FURTHER ORDERED that Patent Owner is to continue to have a registered practitioner as lead counsel in this proceeding;

FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. Knobloch and Mr. Valaik are to comply with the Patent Trial and Appeal Board's Consolidated Trial Practice Guide (November 2019), *available at* https://www.uspto.gov/TrialPracticeGuideConsolidated, and the Board's Rules of Practice for Trials, as set forth in Part 42 of Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations;

FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. Knobloch and Mr. Valaik are subject to the USPTO's disciplinary jurisdiction under 37 C.F.R. § 11.19(a), and the USPTO's Rules of Professional Conduct set forth at 37 C.F.R. §§ 11.101–11.901.

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