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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

APPLE INC.,
Petitioner,

v.

RJ TECHNOLOGY, LLC,
Patent Owner.

IPR2023-01350
Patent 7,749,641 B2

Before JON B. TORNQUIST, CHRISTOPHER M. KAISER, and BRIAN D. RANGE, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

TORNQUIST, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

ORDER
Conditionally Granting Patent Owner's Motions for
Pro Hac Vice Admission of George Stamatopoulos,
Daniel Zaheer, Hangcheng (Robert) Zhou, and Michael Ng
37 C.F.R. § 42.10(c)

Patent Owner filed Motions for *Pro Hac Vice* Admission of George Stamatopoulos, Daniel Zaheer, Hangcheng (Robert) Zhou, and Michael Ng. Papers 14–17 ("Motions"). Patent Owner submitted Declarations of George Stamatopoulos, Daniel Zaheer, Robert Zhou, and Michael Ng in support of the Motions. Exs. 2002–2005. Patent Owner attests that Petitioner does not oppose the Motions. *See, e.g.*, Paper 14, 1. For the reasons provided below, Patent Owner's Motions are *conditionally granted*.

In accordance with 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 authorizing a motion for *pro hac vice* admission, the Board requires the moving party to provide 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 the proceeding. *See Unified Patents, Inc. v. Parallel Iron, LLC*, IPR2013-00639, Paper 7 (PTAB Oct. 15, 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. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and Mr. Ng each have sufficient legal and technical qualifications to represent Patent Owner in this proceeding, have demonstrated sufficient litigation experience and familiarity with the subject matter of this proceeding, and meet all other requirements for admission *pro hac vice*. *See* Exs. 2002–2005. Accordingly, Patent Owner has established good cause for *pro hac vice* admission of Mr. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and

Mr. Ng. Mr. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and Mr. Ng will be permitted to serve as back-up counsel only. *See* 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(c).

We note that powers of attorney in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(b) have not been submitted for Mr. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and Mr. Ng. Therefore, Patent Owner's Motions are *conditionally granted*, to be effective only after Patent Owner files the aforementioned Powers of Attorney.

Patent Owner also has not filed updated mandatory notices identifying Mr. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and Mr. Ng as back-up counsel. Therefore, Patent Owner must file updated mandatory notices identifying Mr. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and Mr. Ng as back-up counsel in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 42.8(b)(3).

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that Patent Owner's Motions for *Pro Hac Vice* Admission of George Stamatopoulos, Daniel Zaheer, Hangcheng (Robert) Zhou, and Michael Ng are *conditionally granted*, provided that within ten (10) business days of the date of this order, Patent Owner must submit powers of attorney for Mr. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and Mr. Ng in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(b);

FURTHER ORDERED that Patent Owner must file updated mandatory notices identifying Mr. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and Mr. Ng as back-up counsel in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 42.8(b)(3);

FURTHER ORDERED that Patent Owner continue to have a registered practitioner represent it as lead counsel for this proceeding;

FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and Mr. Ng are authorized to act as back-up counsel only in this proceeding;

FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and Mr. Ng be familiar with the Patent Trial and Appeal Board Consolidated Trial Practice Guide (84 Fed. Reg. 64,280 (Nov. 21, 2019))[1] and the Board's Rules of Practice for Trials as set forth in Part 42 of Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations; and

FURTHER ORDERED that Mr. Stamatopoulos, Mr. Zaheer, Mr. Zhou, and Mr. Ng are subject to the Office's disciplinary jurisdiction under 37 C.F.R. § 11.19(a), and the USPTO Rules of Professional Conduct set forth in 37 C.F.R. §§ 11.101 *et seq.*

[1] Available at https://www.uspto.gov/TrialPracticeGuideConsolidated.

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