



governmentattic.org

"Rummaging in the government's attic"

Description of document: US Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Patent Secrecy Orders - Statistics 2021

Requested date: 30-December-2020

Release date: 17-March-2021

Posted date: 13-May-2024

Source of document: Freedom of Information Act Request
USPTO FOIA Officer
United States Patent and Trademark Office
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Email: FOIARequests@uspto.gov

The governmentattic.org web site ("the site") is a First Amendment free speech web site and is noncommercial and free to the public. The site and materials made available on the site, such as this file, are for reference only. The governmentattic.org web site and its principals have made every effort to make this information as complete and as accurate as possible, however, there may be mistakes and omissions, both typographical and in content. The governmentattic.org web site and its principals shall have neither liability nor responsibility to any person or entity with respect to any loss or damage caused, or alleged to have been caused, directly or indirectly, by the information provided on the governmentattic.org web site or in this file. The public records published on the site were obtained from government agencies using proper legal channels. Each document is identified as to the source. Any concerns about the contents of the site should be directed to the agency originating the document in question. GovernmentAttic.org is not responsible for the contents of documents published on the website.



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL

March 17, 2021

VIA E-MAIL

Re: *Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request No. F-21-00060*

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) FOIA Office has received your e-mail dated December 30, 2020 requesting a copy of the following documents pursuant to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552:

The records that describe the ages of the current patent secrecy orders: for example how many such patent applications still in secrecy from 1955, how many from 1956, etc. I am not seeking specific information about any patents or patent applications themselves.

The USPTO identified a document that is responsive to your request. A copy of this material is enclosed.

You may contact the FOIA Public Liaison at 571-272-9585 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

Your request is considered complete with full disclosure. However, you have the right to appeal this initial decision to the Deputy General Counsel, United States Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. An appeal must be received within 90 calendar days from the date of this letter. See 37 C.F.R. § 102.10(a). The appeal must be in writing. You must include a copy of your original request, this letter, and a statement of the reasons why the information should be made available and why this initial denial is in error. Both the letter and the envelope must be clearly marked "Freedom of Information Appeal."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "KES", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Karon E. Seldon
USPTO FOIA Specialist
Office of General Law

Number of Current Secrecy Orders by Age

Note: This data is approximate. It is derived from electronic records in the Patent Application Location Monitoring system (PALM), which was implemented in the mid-1970s. The total number of active Secrecy Orders shown here differs from the total in the annual Secrecy Order Activity Report, because of incomplete or inaccurate conversion of physical records.

Year Secrecy Order Imposed:	Number of Current Secrecy Orders:	Year Secrecy Order Imposed:	Number of Current Secrecy Orders:	Year Secrecy Order Imposed:	Number of Current Secrecy Orders:
1942	1	1975	18	1999	47
1943	1	1978	1	2000	61
1947	3	1979	1	2001	67
1948	7	1980	2	2002	108
1949	12	1981	235	2003	80
1950	18	1982	916	2004	94
1951	8	1983	184	2005	82
1952	10	1984	111	2006	97
1953	10	1985	79	2007	90
1954	3	1986	170	2008	75
1955	9	1987	145	2009	82
1956	1	1988	448	2010	98
1957	2	1989	598	2011	124
1958	1	1990	301	2012	100
1961	2	1991	277	2013	125
1964	1	1992	153	2014	106
1966	1	1993	163	2015	107
1967	4	1994	92	2016	118
1971	2	1995	95	2017	114
1972	6	1996	74	2018	120
1973	2	1997	73	2019	53
1974	1	1998	67	2020	66
				Total	6322