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she left such group, without written authorization of the Director. Associated and related classes in other patent examining groups may be required to be included in the undertaking or designated classes may be excluded from the undertaking. When an application for registration is made after resignation from the Office, the applicant will not be registered if he or she has prepared or prosecuted or assisted in the preparation or prosecution of any patent application as indicated in the paragraph. Knowingly preparing or prosecuting or providing assistance in the preparation or prosecution of any patent application contrary to the provisions of this paragraph shall constitute misconduct under § 10.23(c)(13) of this part.

(c) A practitioner who is an employee of the Office cannot prosecute or aid in any manner in the prosecution of any patent application before the Office.

(d) Practice before the Office by Government employees is subject to any applicable conflict of interest laws, regulations or codes of professional responsibility.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0651–0012)

[53 FR 38950, Oct. 4, 1988; 53 FR 41278, Oct. 20, 1988]

§ 10.11 Removing names from the register.

(a) Registered attorneys and agents shall notify the Director of any change of address. Any notification to the Director of any change of address shall be separate from any notice of change of address filed in individual applications.

(b) A letter may be addressed to any individual on the register, at the address of which separate notice was last received by the Director, for the purpose of ascertaining whether such individual desires to remain on the register. The name of any individual failing to reply and give any information requested by the Director within a time limit specified will be removed from the register and the names of individuals so removed will be published in the Official Gazette. The name of any individual so removed may be reinstated on the register as may be appropriate and upon payment of the fee set forth in § 1.21(a)(3) of this subchapter.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 0651–0012)

§§ 10.12—10.13 [Reserved]

§ 10.14 Individuals who may practice before the Office in trademark and other non-patent cases.

(a) *Attorneys.* Any individual who is an attorney may represent others before the Office in trademark and other non-patent cases. An attorney is not required to apply for registration or recognition to practice before the Office in trademark and other non-patent cases.

(b) *Non-lawyers.* Individuals who are not attorneys are not recognized to practice before the Office in trademark and other non-patent cases, except that individuals not attorneys who were recognized to practice before the Office in trademark cases under this chapter prior to January 1, 1957, will be recognized as agents to continue practice before the Office in trademark cases.

(c) *Foreigners.* Any foreign attorney or agent not a resident of the United States who shall prove to the satisfaction of the Director that he or she is registered or in good standing before the patent or trademark office of the country in which he or she resides and practices, may be recognized for the limited purpose of representing parties located in such country before the Office in the presentation and prosecution of trademark cases, *provided:* The patent or trademark office of such country allows substantially reciprocal privileges to those permitted to practice in trademark cases before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Recognition under this paragraph shall continue only during the period that the conditions specified in this paragraph obtain.

(d) Recognition of any individual under this section shall not be construed as sanctioning or authorizing the performance of any act regarded in the jurisdiction where performed as the unauthorized practice of law.

(e) No individual other than those specified in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) of this section will be permitted to practice before the Office in trademark

cases. Any individual may appear in a trademark or other non-patent case in his or her own behalf. Any individual may appear in a trademark case for (1) a firm of which he or she is a member or (2) a corporation or association of which he or she is an officer and which he or she is authorized to represent, if such firm, corporation, or association is a party to a trademark proceeding pending before the Office.

§10.15 Refusal to recognize a practitioner.

Any practitioner authorized to appear before the Office may be suspended or excluded in accordance with the provisions of this part. Any practitioner who is suspended or excluded under this subpart or removed under §10.11(b) shall not be entitled to practice before the Office.

§§10.16—10.17 [Reserved]

§10.18 Signature and certificate of practitioner.

(a) Except where a copy, including a photocopy or facsimile transmission, of a personally signed piece of correspondence is permitted to be filed pursuant to §1.4 of this chapter, every piece of correspondence filed by a practitioner on behalf of himself or herself or representing an applicant or a party to a proceeding in the Patent and Trademark Office must bear an original signature personally signed in permanent ink by such practitioner except for correspondence which is required to be signed by the applicant or party. The signature of a practitioner on correspondence filed by the practitioner, regardless of whether the correspondence has an original signature or is a copy, including a photocopy or facsimile transmission, of correspondence bearing an original signature, constitutes a certificate that:

(1) The correspondence has been read by the practitioner;

(2) The filing of the correspondence is authorized;

(3) To the best of practitioner's knowledge, information, and belief, there is good ground to support the correspondence, including any allegations of improper conduct contained or alleged therein; and

(4) The correspondence is not interposed for delay.

(b) Any practitioner knowingly violating the provisions of this section is subject to disciplinary action. See §10.23(c)(15).

[58 FR 54503, Oct. 22, 1993]

§10.19 [Reserved]

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CODE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY

§10.20 Canons and Disciplinary Rules.

(a) Canons are set out in §§10.21, 10.30, 10.46, 10.56, 10.61, 10.76, 10.83, 10.100, and 10.110. Canons are statements of axiomatic norms, expressing in general terms the standards of professional conduct expected of practitioners in their relationships with the public, with the legal system, and with the legal profession.

(b) Disciplinary Rules are set out in §§10.22—10.24, 10.31—10.40, 10.47—10.57, 10.62—10.68, 10.77, 10.78, 10.84, 10.85, 10.87—10.89, 10.92, 10.93, 10.101—10.103, 10.111, and 10.112. Disciplinary Rules are mandatory in character and state the minimum level of conduct below which no practitioner can fall without being subjected to disciplinary action.

§10.21 Canon 1.

A practitioner should assist in maintaining the integrity and competence of the legal profession.

§10.22 Maintaining integrity and competence of the legal profession.

(a) A practitioner is subject to discipline if the practitioner has made a materially false statement in, or if the practitioner has deliberately failed to disclose a material fact requested in connection with, the practitioner's application for registration or membership in the bar of any United States court or any State court or his or her authority to otherwise practice before the Office in trademark and other non-patent cases.

(b) A practitioner shall not further the application for registration or membership in the bar of any United States court, State court, or administrative agency of another person