Hi. I hold numerous “simple,” but profitable, patents and have helped other inventors walk through the process. Unfortunately, I have to warn people that they need a Plan B in case they have to sell out, because a potential infringer’s bank account may hold more rights than a U.S. patent. It seems that Congress, the Courts, and the USPTO have gone out of their way to turn a U.S. patent into a "small claim." What our country needs is for patents to return to their previous value as a big claim, with small entities being able to wield their patent rights as a big stick. Congress and the Courts must allow injunctions and reward damages in support of inventors as they try to put up a fight.

Also, the USPTO should not have the magical power of subjecting patents to repeated jeopardy after allowance. Let us spar and work with the Examiners to achieve a meaningful patent. Trust your Examiners, and let the market and Courts take it from there.

You may also want to take a step back and think of how the term "small claims" in this instance seems dismissive. Is it really a small thing when $millions are at stake, including livelihoods and families at direct risk? Such stress is not a trivial thing.

Is the difference between a small entity and a large entity really the difference of 1 employee or $1 in revenue, and are there no medium-sized businesses? To truly small entities the medium ones seem quite large. This may not matter to the USPTO for filing purposes, which is fine, but this does matter when trying to ensure an even playing field based on the patents themselves, not based on bank accounts. If anything, the larger the company the more burden it should bear in being responsible in its business decisions and actions, and the more punishment it should fear for flaunting the responsibility. Patent rights are a foundational aspect of our society, and they need to be secured.

Thank you for reading. -Jay

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