

From: ACUS Information nfo@acus.gov
Subject: FW: >>> You Asked for A Comment From A True Patented U S. Inventor. ..Here t s:
Date: August 25, 2022 at 4:51 PM
To: [REDACTED]

From: Steve Bridgers [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2022 2:37 PM
To: ACUS Information <info@acus.gov>
Subject: >>> You Asked for A Comment From A True Patented U S. Inventor. ..Here it is:

To Whom It May Concern~

Greetings!

Hope this finds you all well.

I just now received an email from your source asking for my comment(s) about U.S. Patent / Small claims, your efforts on behalf of inventors, and such.

Thank you .

Here are my comments and some relevant facts for you:

I hold the U.S. Patent US 6869246, which expired a few years ago. You can view it for free on-line, and Your questions are most welcome.

I spent my life's work between 1995 and the Expiration of my sole rights - and all my efforts until just a few years ago - you know - I gave all - developing and pursuing my claims across our great nation of America... (and in British and European circles as well ..) - the record is publicly available - at no small cost to me, my family , my friends, and truly hundreds of associates, you can be assured.

I traveled and made presentations, had engineering models manufactured, in America - also at great expense - which I freely provided to very senior officials at the Naval Research Lab (NRL), The National Aeronautics and Space Administration Headquarters (NASA HQ) in Washington, D.C., ..several major universities here and in Canada. .. Big Tech...high schools ..Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Conferences held in The National Capitol Building in Washington...as well as presentations for a Bi - Annual meeting of the President's Council on Advanced Science and Technology (PCAST) in spring of 2005, also in Washington; high-schools locally, as well as up and down the East Coast , small businesses..all that..

An attendee to the PCAST Meeting , over cocktails afterwards at the Washington , D.C. Hilton Hotel - back in 2005 - ; told my business associate that he completely understood the magnitude of the PCAST Presentation, and then indicated, that being as I am a 'sole inventor' - not being part or privy to the machinations of Big Government and/or Big Tech/ Academia or 'Industry'; that likely one of two things would probably occur:

Either

1. I would die

or -

2. My patent rights would expire

In either case, interested parties would just take my claims and do whatever they wanted with them, and , of course, I would never know,

Right ?

Undaunted, I pursued my claims - like some 21st Century Don Quixote tipping at windmills...

Or The Emperor's New Clothes ?

Rip Van Winkle also comes to mind ...

Rumplestilskin maybe... Rapunzel ..

Sure enough, less than eighteen (18) months before the sole rights to my invention expired, I got a personal telephone call from The Director of The United States Navy (USN) Office of Naval Research (ONR) Disruptive Technology Laboratory (DTL) at Carderock, Maryland; asking me to bring all my Power Point slides, models and presentation materials , to a presentation he arranged for me the following week at the DTL at Carderock.

I of course , enthusiastically gathered my materials and went straight-away there...

The Pope was in Washington-town that day, so of course the traffic was incredible - but I was 'on time'...by 8:30 a.m. ... to the DTL - as there were Department of Defence (DoD) Program Managers (PMs) in attendance, as well as 'conferencing in' by phone, from across the nation, awaiting my presentation.

I provided models for all the attendees, as well as copies of all my presentation materials.

The Power Point slides were of course shared electronically via big-screen teevee (t.v.).

Just before lunch, towards the end of my three (3) hour presentation, the door to the room opened and in walked the

Ph.D. Patent Attorney for the ONR, whom had been listening in and viewing the presentation from his office via conference-phone.

He proceeded to promptly inform all the other PMs and attendees, as well as myself, that he had reviewed all my patent and claims the night before; that all the claims were valid; that the models and materials I provided to illustrate the applications were accurate; as well as demonstrable with available resources, technologies and materials- and of no small benefit to society.

I then , at the end of my presentation, the USN ONR Patent Attorney went further to also inform all these DoD PMs - there were more than a dozen PMs or so... that my claims were due to expire in about eighteen (18) months; at which point he suggested these DoD PMs could either:

A. Work with me then to develop the applications I worked so hard to share with them...

or -

B. Wait eighteen (18) months, and then just go forward without me after the claims expired.

Then he left to go to lunch.

Then I left.

I have never heard from any of them since.

Not one of the PMs in attendance returned my calls, either .

Now it's been a little more than twenty-five years since I filed my first claims...hindsight is indeed "20/20", as they say?

Furthermore, I discussed some of these 'patent issues' with not a few 'high power' United States (U.S.) patent litigation attorneys; whom all informed me that it can cost in the neighborhood of two -million dollars (\$2,000,000 US) to simply show up in 'patent court'- and in the event one should lose in court, one may indeed have to pay costs well beyond even that.

So, you know.. ?

I spent over thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000 US) of what little I have... plus my 'friends and family's support - for over twenty (20) years, in the process of filing my claims to artwork/drawings, models, presentations, travel, dealing with patent attorneys, as well as the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) , in having my claims issue in a nine (9) year effort; all while my patent was pending.

So, I hope I have some understanding of such matters, truly.

I am not, however, an attorney of any kind.

Please let me know, however, if you should have any thoughts or questions.

Thank you for your interests and any concerns .

Your questions, comments and suggestions are gratefully appreciated.

Call anytime.

I am retired now, and may emigrate to

Norway

NOI way...

...as I think I qualify for citizenship there, also.

Thank you,
Cheers~

Steven B. Bridgers
U.S. Inventor

US 6869246

