

Filed on behalf of: Meta Platforms, Inc.

Entered: June 14, 2023

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

META PLATFORMS, INC.
Petitioner,

v.

ANGEL TECHNOLOGIES GROUP LLC,
Patent Owner.

Case No. IPR2023-00058
U.S. Patent No. 9,959,291

**PETITIONER'S MOTION FOR
PRO HAC VICE ADMISSION OF SARA L. TOWNSEND
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(c)**

I. RELIEF REQUESTED

Under 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(c) and the Notice of Filing Date Accorded to Petition and Time for Filing Patent Owner Preliminary Response (Paper No. 3), Petitioner Meta Platforms, Inc. (“Petitioner”) respectfully requests the *pro hac vice* admission of attorney Sara L. Townsend, Esq. in this proceeding.

II. LEGAL STANDARD

Under 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 and to any other conditions as the Board may impose. For example, where the lead counsel is a registered practitioner, a motion to appear *pro hac vice* by counsel who is not a registered practitioner may be granted upon showing that counsel is an experienced litigating attorney and has an established familiarity with the subject matter at issue in the proceeding.

The Notice of Filing Date Accorded to Petition and Time for Filing Patent Owner Preliminary Response (Paper No. 3) further instructs:

The parties are advised that under 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(c), recognition of counsel *pro hac vice* requires a showing of good cause. The parties are authorized to file motions for *pro hac vice* admission under 37 C.F.R. § 42.10(c). Such motions shall be filed in accordance with the “Order -- Authorizing Motion for *Pro Hac Vice* Admission” in Case IPR2013-00639, Paper 7, a copy of which is available on the

Board Web site under “Representative Orders, Decisions, and Notices.”

(*Id.* at 2.) The above referenced “Order -- Authorizing Motion for *Pro Hac Vice* Admission” further provides:

A motion for *pro hac vice* admission must:

- a. Contain a statement of facts showing there is good cause for the Board to recognize counsel *pro hac vice* during the proceeding.
- b. Be accompanied by an affidavit or declaration of the individual seeking to appear attesting to the following:
 - i. Membership in good standing of the Bar of at least one State or the District of Columbia;
 - ii. No suspensions or disbarments from practice before any court or administrative body;
 - iii. No application for admission to practice before any court or administrative body ever denied;
 - iv. No sanctions or contempt citations imposed by any court or administrative body;
 - v. The individual seeking to appear has read and will comply with the Office Patent Trial Practice Guide and Board's Rules of Practice for Trials set forth in part 42 of 37 C.F.R.;

- vi. The individual will be subject to the USPTO Rules of Professional Conduct set forth in 37 C.F.R. §§ 11.101 *et seq.* and disciplinary jurisdiction under 37 C.F.R. § 11.19(a);
- vii. All other proceedings before the Office for which the individual has applied to appear *pro hac vice* in the last (3) years; and
- viii. Familiarity with the subject matter at issue in the proceeding.

(IPR2013-00639, Paper No. 7 at 2.) As set forth below, and in the accompanying Declaration of Sara L. Townsend (Ex. 1038, "Townsend Decl."), each of these requirements is satisfied here.

III. STATEMENT OF FACTS SHOWING GOOD CAUSE FOR THE BOARD TO RECOGNIZE SARA L. TOWNSEND *PRO HAC VICE* IN THIS PROCEEDING

Ms. Townsend is a member in good standing of the California Bar (Bar No. 320300) and is admitted to practice before the United States District Court for the Central District of California, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, and the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas. (Townsend Decl. ¶1.) Ms. Townsend has never been suspended or disbarred from practice before any court or administrative body. (*Id.* ¶2.) No application of Ms. Townsend for admission to practice before any court or administrative body has ever been denied. (*Id.* ¶3.) Nor has any court or administrative body imposed sanctions or contempt citations against Ms.

Townsend. (*Id.* ¶4.) Ms. Townsend has read, fully understands, and will comply with the Office Patent Trial Practice Guide and the Board's Rules of Practice for Trials set forth in Part 42 of Title 37 of the C.F.R. (*Id.* ¶5.) Ms. Townsend acknowledges and agrees that she will be subject to the USPTO Rules of Professional Conduct set forth in 37 C.F.R. §§ 11.101 *et seq.* and disciplinary jurisdiction under 37 C.F.R. § 11.19(a). (*Id.* ¶6.)

Petitioner's lead counsel in this proceeding, Lisa K. Nguyen, is a registered practitioner (Reg. No. 58,018). Moreover, as set forth below (and in her accompanying declaration), Ms. Townsend is both an experienced and technically trained litigation attorney with an established familiarity with the subject matter at issue in this proceeding.

Ms. Townsend received a Bachelor of Science degree in Ecology & Evolution and a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies from the University of California, Santa Barbara in 1996. (*Id.* ¶7.) Ms. Townsend earned a Master of Arts degree in Marine Affairs & Policy from the University of Miami, Rosenstiel School of Marine, Atmospheric and Earth Science in 2002. (*Id.*) She obtained her Juris Doctor degree from Santa Clara University School of Law in 2016. (*Id.*)

Ms. Townsend is an associate in Allen & Overy's intellectual property practice and focuses on patent litigation. (*Id.* ¶ 8.) She joined the group in

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