

Nos. 19-1434, 19-1452, 19-1458

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IN THE  
Supreme Court of the United States

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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, *Petitioner*,

v.

ARTHREX, INC., ET AL., *Respondents*.

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ON WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF  
APPEALS FOR THE FEDERAL CIRCUIT

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AMICUS CURIAE BRIEF OF ECOMP CONSULTANTS  
IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONER

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December 2, 2020

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## QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Whether, for purposes of the Appointments Clause, U.S. CONST. art. II, § 2, cl. 2, administrative patent judges of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office are principal officers who must be appointed by the President with the Senate’s advice and consent, or “inferior Officers” whose appointment Congress has permissibly vested in a department head.

2. Whether, if administrative patent judges are principal officers, the court of appeals properly cured any Appointments Clause defect in the current statutory scheme prospectively by severing the application of 5 U.S.C. § 7513(a) to those judges.

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

QUESTIONS PRESENTED..... i

TABLE OF CONTENTS..... ii

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES ..... iii

INTEREST OF *AMICUS CURIAE*..... 1

SUMMARY OF ARGUMENTS ..... 2

ARGUMENT..... 5

    I. This Court’s Precedents, Relied upon by the  
    Federal Circuit Panel, Establish That APJs  
    Are Inferior Officers..... 7

    II. The Federal Circuit Panel Misapplied This  
    Court’s Decision in *Edmond v. United*  
    *States*..... 8

    III. The Secretary of Commerce and Director  
    of the PTO Have Substantial Directorial  
    and Supervisory Powers over APJs..... 9

    IV. Congress Made the Deliberate Decision to  
    Make APJs Inferior Officers ..... 14

CONCLUSION..... 15

**TABLE OF AUTHORITIES****Page(s)****CASES**

<i>In re Alappat</i> , 33 F.3d 1526 (Fed. Cir. 1994).....	13
<i>Arthrex, Inc. v. Smith &amp; Nephew, Inc.</i> , No. 18-2140 (Fed. Cir. Oct. 31, 2019) .....	2
<i>BioDelivery Scis. Int'l, Inc. v. Aquestive Therapeutics Inc.</i> , 935 F.3d 1362 (Fed. Cir. 2019), <i>cert. denied</i> , No. 19-1381, 2020 U.S. LEXIS 3907 (U.S. Oct. 5, 2020) .....	11
<i>Buckley v. Valeo</i> , 424 U.S. 1 (1976) .....	3, 6
<i>Edmond v. United States</i> , 520 U.S. 651 (1997) .....	<i>passim</i>
<i>Free Enter. Fund v. Pub. Co. Accounting Oversight Bd.</i> , 561 U.S. 477 (2010) .....	7, 13
<i>Freytag v. Commissioner</i> , 501 U.S. 868 (1991) .....	7, 8
<i>Ex parte Hennen</i> , 38 U.S. 230 (1839) .....	7

<i>Lucia v. SEC</i> , 138 S. Ct. 2044 (2018) .....	7
<i>Morrison v. Olson</i> , 487 U.S. 654 (1988) .....	7
<i>Myers v. United States</i> , 272 U.S. 52 (1926) .....	7
<i>Nidec Motor Corp. v. Zhongshan Broad Ocean Motor Co. Ltd.</i> , 868 F.3d 1013 (Fed. Cir. 2017), <i>cert. denied</i> , 138 S. Ct. 1695 (2018) .....	13
<i>Oil States Energy Servs., LLC v. Greene’s Energy Grp. LLC</i> , 138 S. Ct. 1365 (2018) .....	9, 11, 12, 13
<i>Phillips v. AWH Corp.</i> , 415 F.3d 1303 (Fed. Cir. 2005).....	10
<i>Seila Law LLC v. Consumer Fin. Prot. Bureau</i> , 140 S. Ct. 2183 (2020) .....	8
<i>Thryv, Inc. v. Click-to-Call Techs., LP</i> , 140 S. Ct. 1367 (2020) .....	11
<i>United States v. Arthrex, Inc.</i> , No. 19-1434 (U.S. filed June 25, 2020).....	4, 9
<i>United States v. Arthrex, Inc.</i> , No. 19-1434, 19-1452, 19-1458 (U.S. filed Nov. 25, 2020).....	4, 9

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