

Colorado Celebrates the Opening of the
United States Patent and Trademark
Rocky Mountain Regional Satellite Office in Denver

Grand Opening
GALA

Monday, June 30, 2014
5:30 – 10:00 pm

Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum
7711 East Academy Boulevard
Denver, CO 80230-6929

Hosted by the Rocky Mountain IP Collective
With Support from the Colorado IP Inn of Court,
The Colorado Bar Association Intellectual Property Section,
and Sponsoring Companies and Law Firms

CBA
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY SECTION



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The arrival of the Rocky Mountain Regional Satellite Office in Denver culminates a five plus year effort by the IP Section of the Colorado Bar Association.

Beginning in May 2009, the IP Section commenced a renewed effort to first convince the Obama Administration and the USPTO that a national footprint of satellite offices was necessary to support hiring and retention of the best Examiners, improve quality, provide community outreach, and help foster innovation and economic growth.

John Posthumus, Tom Franklin and Mike Drapkin led the IP section in this effort. The trio of leaders made numerous trips to Washington DC beginning in the summer of 2009 when they met with the Obama Administration, leaders of the patent examiners union POPA, and each member of the Colorado congressional delegation. The summer 2009 trip was quickly followed up with a September 2009 trip to DC to meet with then Director David Kappos. The first meeting with Director Kappos began with his announcement that he supported a nationwide workforce, but needed more time to address the Office's IT issues before adding remote offices.

Subsequently in 2010, the leaders and other members of the IP Section, members of the Colorado political delegation and the Metro Denver Economic Development Corp, continued to have meetings in Washington DC and to host Patent Office representatives in Denver. This included then Deputy Director Sharon Barner addressing the IP Institute in May and participating in a reception hosted by then Colorado Governor Ritter and meetings with representatives of then Governor Ritter and Denver Mayor Hickenlooper. However, the effort reached a low point later that year when the Director Kappos announced in December 2010 that Detroit was awarded the first satellite patent office.

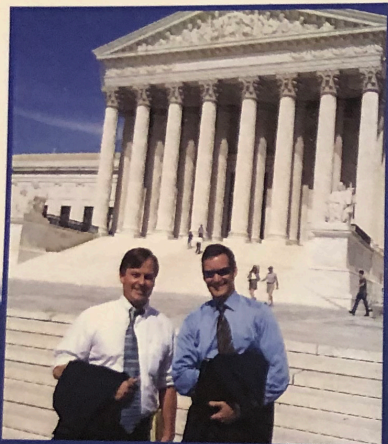
In early 2011, the leaders regrouped and the effort was put back on track when Senator Michael Bennet introduced an amendment to the then pending patent reform legislation in February. The amendment required, among other things, that the Patent Office open three additional satellite patent offices within 3 years of the enactment of the legislation. Eventually, in September 2011, after passage in both the House and the Senate, President Obama signed into law the America Invents Act that included the Bennet amendment, i.e., Section 23 Satellite Patent Offices.

With the enactment of the AIA, the team focused its efforts on making sure Denver was one of the few cities honored with a satellite patent office. In January 2012, the USPTO accepted over 500 submissions from fifty different cities hoping to be chosen. Colorado's submission was a 266-page business case justification (with exhibits) for placing a satellite patent office in Denver. Colorado's submission contained letters of support from the entire Colorado Congressional Delegation, the Governor, the Mayor of Denver, the Office of Economic Development, each of Colorado's universities, as well as various businesses and community members. Colorado's submission was the only one to include an economic impact study from an independent source, the University of Colorado's Leeds School of Business, detailing that the Satellite Office would have an economic impact of \$440 million in the first five years.

On July 1, 2012, the Patent Office announced the three cities selected for satellite offices: Denver, Silicon Valley, and Dallas. Since then, the Patent Office's efforts to permanently open locations have been hampered by sequestration. However, that ended in 2013, and the Patent Office has moved quickly to open the locations, with Denver being the first to open on June 30, 2014.

Throughout this effort, the IP Section of the Colorado Bar Association has worked closely with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to partner and collaborate with the Office in its educational and outreach efforts in Colorado. These efforts have included establishing the second Pro Bono Patent program in the country, hosting the 3rd Annual U.S. PTO Women's Entrepreneurship Sympo-

sium, establishing and instituting an annual World IP Day, and hosting the AIA Roundtable with the Patent Trial and Appeal Board, among other events. The IP Section looks forward to a long and fruitful collaboration with the Office in continuing to meet our shared goals of educating both experienced IP professionals and our public stakeholders.



Building HISTORY

Byron G. Rogers Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse

In the years following World War II, the population of Denver, Colorado, grew rapidly as numerous federal agencies located to the city. The existing federal building could no longer accommodate growing space needs, and the government began planning for a new complex to house the U.S. District Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit. In 1959, the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) selected the accomplished Denver architectural firm James Sudler Associates as the lead designer, with another skilled Denver firm, Fisher & Davis, assisting. James Sudler designed numerous Modern buildings in the Denver area, including the exuberant Church of the Risen Christ and the Denver Museum of Art (with Gio Ponti).

In 1961, the federal government allotted \$687,000 to purchase the downtown Denver site, bound by Champa, Stout, Nineteenth, and Twentieth streets, adjacent to the existing post office and custom house. Officials appropriated an additional \$20 million in 1962 for the construction of the complex, with ground-breaking occurring the same year. The first occupants moved into the building in 1965. In 1984, the complex was named to honor Byron G. Rogers (1900-1983), who represented Colorado in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1951 to 1971. Rogers was instrumental in securing the original funds for the courthouse. The trial of Timothy McVeigh, the bomber responsible for the 1995 attack on the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, was held at the Byron G. Rogers Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse in 1996 and 1997. To find an impartial jury, the court moved the case to Denver, where McVeigh was tried and convicted.



SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

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|-------------------|--|
| 1959: | Architects James Sudler Associates and Fisher & Davis retained |
| 1962: | Construction begins |
| 1965: | Construction completed |
| 1966: | Building dedicated |
| 1984: | Building named to honor Byron G. Rogers |
| 1996-1997: | Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh tried and convicted |
| 1999-2001: | GSA initiates First Impressions project |
| 2002-2006: | Courthouse renovated |

BUILDING FACTS

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|-----------------------------|--|
| Location: | 1961 Stout Street |
| Architects: | James Sudler Associates; Fisher & Davis |
| Construction Dates: | 1962-1965 |
| Architectural Style: | Formalism |
| Primary Materials: | Marble and pre-cast concrete panels |
| Prominent Features: | 18-story tower; Low courthouse; Public art; Landscaped plaza |

In 1999, GSA initiated alterations to the entrance to accommodate security needs. Local preservationists asked GSA to consider the potential significance of the complex before commencing work that would alter character-defining features. As a result, GSA developed a sensitive design that retained these important elements. The unexpected public interest led GSA to commission a study to better understand the architecture and context of buildings from this era. In 2003, GSA published *Growth, Efficiency, and Modernism: GSA Buildings of the 1950s, 60s, and 70s*. The publication has received several awards and strengthened GSA's reputation as a leader in the preservation field.

Architecture

The Byron G. Rogers Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse consists of three distinct components: an 18-story office tower, a low courthouse, and a landscaped plaza. This three-part design combination was typical of Modern architecture and is perhaps best exemplified by the United Nations complex in New York City. Sudler's design for the Byron G. Rogers Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse is an excellent example of Formalism, a style of Modern architecture that incorporates flat rooflines, columnar supports, symmetry, high-quality materials, and works of art.

In 1999, GSA initiated a \$1.65 million project as part of its First Impressions program. The plaza and entrance configuration were modified to improve security screening and make the facility more efficient and welcoming to employees and visitors. The inviting new plaza skillfully and unobtrusively incorporates security features as well as elements of the architects' design that were never constructed. The existing covered walkway, or canopy, was retained and a new glass pavilion was added at the convergence of the office tower and the courthouse to facilitate security screening. New lighting and a restored water feature were also included in the design. The project received a Standing Ovation Award from Historic Denver, Inc., in 2001 and a 2006 Honor Award from the Denver Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

The low courthouse building underwent a full modernization between 2002 and 2006. The project included upgrades to mechanical systems, reconfiguration of interior spaces, and asbestos abatement.