

May 1, 2020

**Certain Intellectual Property Filing Deadlines Have Been Extended
But Do Not Assume You Can Delay Any Filing Without Consulting Us First**

If the COVID-19 crisis has prevented you from being able to make a filing with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's (USPTO) or the U.S. Copyright Office, new rules issued by those offices may permit you some flexibility in when you can make the filing. **Do not assume you can delay a filing unless you consult with us first** – the filing extensions are narrow, limited to certain filings and require certain actions to be eligible to delay a filing.

According to the USPTO in a notice dated April 28, certain deadlines in patent and trademark filings due between, and inclusive of both, March 27, 2020 and May 31, 2020, will be considered timely **if filed on or before June 1, 2020** if the COVID-19 outbreak has affected you personally, as evidenced by a certain statement you must file. For patent matters, these deadlines include, among other things, responses to office actions, issue fee payments, and maintenance fees. For trademark matters, these deadlines include, among other things, responses to office actions, statements of use or requests to extend time to file statements of use, notices of oppositions requests to extend time to file oppositions, and renewal applications.

The U.S. Copyright Office's extensions for copyright filings are so few and limited as to not be worth mentioning. Deadlines to file copyright applications that can be filed entirely electronically (which is almost all copyright applications) are unchanged.

Consult with us before you delay any filing lest you risk a loss of your rights. We are fully operational and can continue to make any and all filings. Your attorney or patent agent will assist you in determining the best course of action given your circumstances.