

# **AIPLA**

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**AMERICAN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ASSOCIATION**

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**Statement of**

**Gary Griswold**

**Past President of the**

**American Intellectual Property Law Association**

**Before the**

**Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet and**

**Intellectual Property**

**United States House of Representatives**

**Washington, D.C.**

**On**

**H.R. \_\_\_\_\_**

**“Patent Act of 2005”**

**June 9, 2005**

Mr. Chairman:

I am pleased to have the opportunity to present the views of the American Intellectual Property Law Association (AIPLA) on H.R. \_\_\_\_\_ entitled the "Patent Act of 2005." AIPLA congratulates you for your efforts to identify important issues affecting the U.S. patent system and to search for appropriate reforms to increase its effectiveness.

AIPLA is a national bar association of more than 16,000 members engaged in private and corporate practice, in government services, and in the academic community. The AIPLA represents a wide and diverse spectrum of individuals involved directly or indirectly in the practice of patent, trademark, copyright, and unfair competition law, as well as other fields of law affecting intellectual property. Since our members represent both patent owners as well as those against whom patents are asserted, we have a keen interest in reforms that further an efficient, effective, and balanced patent system.

I appear today in my capacity as a Past President of AIPLA and as the Chair of two Special Committees appointed by then President Rick Nydegger to review and prepare responses to two recent studies on the patent system about which I will say more in a moment. But like one third of AIPLA's active members, I come from the corporate world. I am currently President and Chief IP Counsel of 3M Innovative Properties Company, a subsidiary of 3M. 3M sells over 50,000 products, including consumer products such as "Post-It" Notes and "Scotch" Tape, pharmaceuticals such as Aldara for the treatment of basal skin carcinoma; medical products such as tapes, drapes, and software; brightness enhancement film used in laptops and cell phones; industrial products such as abrasives, adhesives and tape; and electronic products such as flex circuits and electrical connectors. 3M received 585 U.S. patents in 2004, ranking 34th of worldwide and 15th of U.S. companies.

