

Produced by the United States Patent and Trademark Office; no copyright is claimed by the United States in this presentation or associated materials.

UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Practice before the USPTO and the Duty of Reasonable Inquiry

Office of Enrollment and Discipline (OED)
United States Patent and Trademark
Office (USPTO)



UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ®

OED

OED Programs

3

OED Diversion Pilot Program

- In 2016, the ABA Commission on Lawyer Assistance Programs and the Hazelden Betty Ford Foundation published a study of about 13,000 currently practicing attorneys and found the following:
 - About 21% qualify as problem drinkers.
 - 28% struggle with some level of depression.
 - 19% struggle with anxiety.
 - 23% struggle with stress.
- Other difficulties include social alienation, work addiction, sleep deprivation, job dissatisfaction, and complaints of work-life conflict.
- In 2017, the USPTO launched the Diversion Pilot Program.



4

4

Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the [UT Law CLE eLibrary \(utcle.org/elibrary\)](https://utcle.org/elibrary)

Title search: Duty of Responsible Inquiry

Also available as part of the eCourse

[2023 Advanced Patent Law \(USPTO\) eConference](#)

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the

18th Annual Advanced Patent Law Institute session

"Ethics Issues Facing USPTO Practitioners"