

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

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EP FAMILY CORP.,  
Petitioner,

v.

OFFICE KICK, INC.,  
Patent Owner.

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IPR2025-00471; Patent 11,849,843 B1  
IPR2025-00497; Patent 11,910,926 B1<sup>1</sup>

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Before JAMES A. WORTH, KARA L. SZPONDOWSKI, and  
BRENT M. DOUGAL, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

DOUGAL, *Administrative Patent Judge*.

DECISION  
Settlement Prior to Institution of Trial  
*37 C.F.R. § 42.74*

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<sup>1</sup> This Order addresses identical issues in the identified proceedings. The parties are not authorized to use this style heading.

IPR2025-00471; Patent 11,849,843 B1  
IPR2025-00497; Patent 11,910,926 B1

Petitioner EP Family Corp. and Patent Owner Office Kick, Inc. jointly request that these *inter partes* review proceedings be terminated pursuant to the parties' agreement. Paper 16 ("Motion" or "Mot.").<sup>1, 2</sup> The parties' Motion includes both a request to terminate, and a request to keep the Settlement Agreement (Ex. 1018) separate. Mot.

In the request to terminate, the parties represent that: (1) they have "settled their dispute and all litigation relating to [the subject] Patent[s]"; (2) they have filed true copies of the Settlement Agreement in connection with these matters; and (3) "[t]here are no other collateral agreements" between the parties in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 317(b). *Id.* at 5.

"The Board expects that a proceeding will terminate after the filing of a settlement agreement, unless the Board has already decided the merits of the proceeding." Patent Trial and Appeal Board Consolidated Trial Practice Guide 86 (PTAB Nov. 19).<sup>3</sup> As these conditions are met, it is appropriate to terminate the proceedings.

Regarding the joint request to keep separate, we have reviewed the Settlement and License Agreement (Ex. 1018) and find that it contains confidential business information regarding the terms of the parties' agreement. We determine that good cause exists to treat the Settlement and

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<sup>1</sup> For convenience, we refer to the documents filed in IPR2025-00471, though nearly identical documents were filed with the same paper and exhibit numbers in IPR2025-00497.

<sup>2</sup> The Motion is a "corrected" motion as the original motion was filed with exhibits using numbers that had already been used in the record. In an effort to reduce confusion, the original motion and exhibits have been expunged.

<sup>3</sup> <https://go.usa.gov/xpvPF>.

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License Agreement as business confidential information pursuant to 37  
C.F.R. § 42.74(c).

## ORDER

Accordingly, it is ORDERED that:

The joint Requests to Keep Separate are *granted*, and the settlement agreements (Exhibits 1018) be treated as business confidential information and be kept separate from the files of the above-identified proceedings and from the files of the above-identified patents under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 42.74(c); and

The Joint Motions to Terminate the proceedings are *granted* as to all parties.

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