

Department of Commerce Conferences

10/1/2019-9/30/2020

< \$500,000

USPTO							
Title	Purpose	Location	Start Date	Attendees	Net Cost	Quarter	
Intellectual Property Attaché Consultation	The objective of consultations was to annually engage industry stakeholders, educators, IP law firms and associations, and U.S. Government Officials on the IPR Attachés' activities with respect to capacity building, outreach, and advocacy overseas. Consultations allowed Attachés and LES to be updated on current IP issues, trends, policies, and legislation. The program included meetings with IP partners such as Department of State, Department of Commerce, and U.S. Trade Representative; and round tables with various regionally-focused trade councils or associations who engaged in specific IP discussions with the Attachés on a variety of issues regarding USPTO Strategic goals and initiatives such as overseas IP Enforcement training activities, regional program development, and IP awareness.	Alexandria, VA	12/09/2019	121	\$141,968	1	
Total USPTO Conferences		1		121	\$141,968		

NIST							
Title	Purpose	Location	Start Date	Attendees	Net Cost	Quarter	
Chemistry/Instrumental Analysis and Crime Scene/Death Investigation Organization of Scientific Area Committee (OSAC) Standards Meeting	The Chemistry/Instrumental Analysis Scientific Area Committee & six Subcommittees and Crime Scene/Death Investigation Scientific Area Committee & seven Subcommittees within the Organization of Scientific Area Committees for Forensic Science met to discuss the technical merit of the latest standards that are up for review.	Norman, OK	03/10/2020	152	\$297,650	2	
Total NIST Conferences		1		152	\$297,650		

Total DOC Conferences		2		273	\$439,618		
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Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Report on Conferences Sponsored by the Department of Commerce

Background

The Department of Commerce is committed, within current budget constraints, to enabling Commerce employees to participate in official conferences as required to meet the mission to support American businesses, create jobs, and strengthen the economy. In FY 2017, in accordance with Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-17-08, Amending OMB Memorandum M-12-12, Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations, the Department continued to focus its efforts on oversight of expenses related to Federally-sponsored and Federally-hosted conferences to ensure that all conference expenses were appropriate, necessary, and managed in a prudent manner while acting as good stewards of taxpayer dollars and ensuring that our policy meets all Office of Management and Budget mandates and Federal Travel Regulations.

Conference Activity

Office of Management and Budget Memorandum M-17-08, Amending OMB Memorandum M-12-12, Promoting Efficient Spending to Support Agency Operations requires that by January 31 of each year, the agency shall report on conference expenses on a dedicated place on their official website that describes all agency-sponsored conferences from the previous fiscal year where the net expenses for the agency associated with the conference were in excess of \$100,000 and in addition, for any instances where the net expenses for an agency-sponsored conference exceeded \$500,000, the website shall include the agency designated official's rationale and approval.

In FY 2020, the Department of Commerce sponsored two conferences in excess of \$100,000. The total net cost to the Department for the conference was \$439,618. The conferences held during FY 2020 related to accomplishing the Department of Commerce's mission to promote job creation, economic growth, and sustainable development to improve the standards of living for all Americans by working in partnership with businesses, universities, and the nation's workforce.