PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in June 2018, the United States Patent & Trademark Office (USPTO) will issue the 10 millionth U.S. utility patent achieving a tremendous milestone in American ingenuity, innovation, creativity, and commerce; and

WHEREAS, the work of the USPTO to grant U.S. patents and register trademarks fulfills the mandate of Article I, Section 8, Clause 8 of the Constitution that the legislative branch "promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries"; and

WHEREAS, since the first U.S. patent grant was issued by President George Washington in 1790 the U.S. patent system has continued to protect the creativity, ingenuity, dedication, and hard work of inventors while supporting American industry and creating employment opportunities for millions of Americans; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is proud to be the home of the United States Patent & Trademark Headquarters and thanks the Agency for its ongoing support and dedication to our community while recognizing the significant positive impact USPTO's presence has on our local economy; and

WHEREAS, to celebrate the issuance of the 10 millionth patent the City of Alexandria is honored to partner with the USPTO and the National Inventors Hall of Fame to host a summer-long educational program and scavenger hunt at Alexandria's museum sites across the City where members of the public will enjoy engaging new exhibits featuring historical patents; and

NOW THEREFORE, I, ALLISON SILBERBERG, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of June as:

PATENT AND TRADEMARK MONTH

And recognize the important role the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office plays in supporting our national and local economic prosperity.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 13th day of June, 2018.

MAYOR ALLISON SILBERBERG

On behalf of the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk