



Natoli-Lapin, LLC
304 Park Avenue South
11th Floor
New York, NY 10010
(212) 537- 4436
(866) 871- 8655
Support@LanternLegal.com
www.LanternLegal.com

PATENT PROCESS AND GENERAL PRICE BREAKDOWN

The following is a general breakdown of our firm's patent process and flat rate pricing structure. It is important to recognize that all patent matters vary greatly depending on the complexity of the invention, nature and disposition of the prior art, timing and sensitivity of the application and/or material and a multitude of other variables. We also understand that many matters will require a much nuanced pricing structure, which we will always try to accommodate.

Just to be clear, there is no such animal as a "cheap" patent. We advise that all of our prospective clients do their own due diligence regards to market rates for such services and be wary of any service that is priced unrealistically low. As with so many other things in life, with patents you usually get what you pay for and true professionals know what they are worth.

We explain to all of our clients that if they do not have at least a \$5000.00 budget to dedicate to the patent process, they may want to reconsider their options. This does not mean that all patent matters will meet or exceed that amount, only that it is a very good general rule of thumb to budget at least this amount.

Because so many of our clients are small business entrepreneurs and independent inventors, we understand the cost considerations and strive to create a pricing structure that allows our clients the most control and transparency during the process. We use a flat-rate pricing model that corresponds with a maximum amount of hours, the scope of which leans in favor of our client in that it works out to a much lower rate for patent attorney time than would otherwise be billed per hour by most competing firms.

For a general explanation of our Business Philosophy and insights on How to Shop for Legal Services please visit the following page:

http://www.lanternlegal.com/our_vision.php



OUR PATENT FEE CHART

To start, we offer all prospective clients the opportunity of a free initial phone consult with one of our attorneys. This is for general informational purposes. For example, to introduce ourselves, understand the nature of your invention in general, give you an idea of the kind of budget that may be needed, perhaps explain aspects of patent law and/or other legal areas and whatever else might be relevant to your matter. Keep in mind, not every invention will qualify for a patent and for many a patent may not be the best option for a variety of reasons.

If after the initial consult we determine that a more detailed and specific discussion would be mutually beneficial, the next step is to complete our brief client intake form (linked below) and to set up a formal phone consultation with our experienced patent counsel. The point of this consultation is to flush out the more specific details of the invention to ascertain both the general patentability and overall concerns and complexities that may be involved as well as formulating a solid idea of a budget for the matter. Please remember that this call is between licensed attorneys and all discussions are within the realm of attorney confidentiality regardless of whether you become a client or not.

We charge a nominal fee of \$100.00 USD for this call and try to cap the time at around one hour. Most of our clients find this to be a very enlightening and educational experience even in cases where they choose not to pursue a patent. This is because they get the benefit of insights offered by a highly experienced patent attorney.

Typically, the next step is to begin the patent (prior art) research phase of the project along with issuing a patentability and infringement opinion letter the cost for which is noted below in our chart.

**The Fee Chart below is for general informational purposes ONLY and is in NO way intended to serve as a binding price quote for any specific patent matter. We encourage all interested persons to contact one of our attorneys for a consultation.*

***All patent applications have associated United States Patent & Trademark Office Fees. These fees are NOT included in any prices discussed herein and they are the responsibility of the Applicant.*



PRELIMINARY MATTERS

MATTER	COST	TIME
INITIAL PHONE CONSULT	FREE	WILL DEPEND – USUALLY NO MORE THAN 15-20 MINUTES
FORMAL PHONE CONSULT WITH PATENT COUNSEL	\$100.00 USD	UP TO ONE HOUR
PRIOR ART RESEARCH and PATENTABILITY / INFRINGEMENT OPINION LETTER	\$1250.00 USD	UP TO FIVE HOURS OF ATTORNEY TIME
PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATION (If Warranted Based on Client Need)	\$600.00 USD (Assumes That Natoli-Lapin, LLC Conducted the Prior Art Search)	UP TO THREE HOURS OF ATTORNEY TIME



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FULL PATENT PROSECUTION CHART

**All legal fee estimates are noted 'through filing' and are not inclusive of USPTO patent filing fees, USPTO Office Action Responses, Drawings, Delivery fees, and any other third-party costs*

TYPE OF MATTER	NATURE OF INVENTION	RANGE OF FEES
Utility Patent	<p style="text-align: center;">Simple –</p> <p>Example: Tire Inflator, Snow Shovel, Checkbook Balancer, Pill Cutter</p>	\$3000-7000
Utility Patent	<p style="text-align: center;">Moderately Complex –</p> <p>Example: Handgun Safety Ammunition, Movable Bushing, Egg Counter</p>	\$6000-10,000
Utility Patent	<p style="text-align: center;">Highly Complex –</p> <p>Example: IPOD Embedded APP, Array Bounds Check, MRI Improvement</p>	\$8000-15,000
Utility Patent	<p style="text-align: center;">Extremely Complex –</p> <p>Example: Complete Aerospace Invention,</p>	



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	Computer Operating System	\$15,000 +
Design Patent	Will Vary on Many Factors	\$2000-3500
Design Patent Coupled with Utility Patent	In many cases a client may wish to apply for both a utility and design patent for the same invention. In such cases where a certain amount of "overlap" exists we account for that by discounting the additional cost of a design patent application by a percentage appropriate for the matter	Utility Patent Cost + Discounted Design Patent Cost (TBD)
USPTO Office Action Responses and/or Other Post Filing Matters	In almost every patent prosecution, the USPTO Examiner will issue an Office Action at some point (basically, a request for information or explanation of items). The cost for patent counsel to respond to these actions will depend on what is entailed and scope of the material being requested.	All USPTO Office Action Responses and other Post Filing Matters are priced on a case-by-case basis and have a minimum fee of \$500.00 (which includes up to three (3) hours of attorney time). <i>In certain cases, where existing patent clients have an office action that is very straight forward requiring little time, our attorneys will often waive the fee and handle the matter with no additional charge. Again, this is determined on a</i>



		<i>case-by-case basis.</i>
Expedited Filing Service	In cases where our patent clients need urgent attention due to pressing filing deadlines we try our best to accommodate this. Where the time is very limited, we offer a premium on our expedited service based on the amount of time we have to work with.	Under 20 Days: Add a 20% Premium on the Quoted Cost Under 10 Days: Add a 50% Premium on the Quoted Cost

**To Learn More Our Patent and Many Other Legal Services
Please Visit Us Here:**

http://www.lanternlegal.com/patent_services.php

**To Start the Patent Process, Please Complete Our Brief Client
Online Intake Form Here:**

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PLEASE FEEL FREE TO **CONTACT US** ANYTIME FOR A FREE CONSULT!

