REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF NOTICE OF ABANDONMENT

Sir:

A Notice of Abandonment was issued on December 27, 2007. However, Applicants note that in response to the Office Action issued June 20, 2007, Applicant filed a Notice of Appeal with an appropriately dated Certificate of Mailing on December 20, 2007. While the USPTO File Image Wrapper indicates the date of December 26, 2007 as the receipt date, this Notice of Appeal should be accorded its mailing date of December 20, 2007. An appropriate extension of time was also submitted. As such, Applicant has timely responded to the Office Action with an appropriate paper. Since the application was never in fact abandoned and a timely Response was in fact filed, withdrawal of the Notice of Abandonment is believed proper.

Since this application is on appeal, and an appeal brief is due, Applicant respectfully requests prompt withdrawal of the Notice so that the undersigned representative can discuss
this case further with the Examiner before filing an appeal brief.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Mark L. Maki

MLM/ps

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Encl: None