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Re: eSOPH

To Whom it May Concern:

eSOPH ("electronic Statement of Personal History") is a Software as a Service ("SaaS") application specifically designed for processing public safety background investigations. It is the invention of Tyler Miller and licensed exclusively to Miller Mendel, Inc (Miller's company). Miller was granted U.S. Patent No. 9070098 on June 30, 2015 and U.S. Patent No. 10043188 on August 7, 2018. These patents claim inventive functionality of electronic reference checks, including the locating of law enforcement agencies based on a current or former address of the applicant. The patents also claim the inventive functionality that allows our clients to view aspects of the applicant's history, including whether the applicant has ever been entered into eSOPH by the agency before, or any other agency using eSOPH.

While the patent claims mentioned above have already been granted, a third application has been filed with the USPTO seeking similar, but broader claims.

The issued 9070098 patent (see Attachment "A") includes independent claims 1 and 5. The difference between 1 and 5 is that claim 1 is a method claims that recites performance of certain steps. Claim 5 covers a non-transitory computer-readable medium that has instructions on it that when executed by a computer processor, performs the same steps as in claim 1. Elements in the independent claims 1 and 5 include: determining a reference class of the first reference based on the program data regarding the first reference; selecting a first reference set of electronic documents based on the reference class of the first reference; and generating a suggested reference list of one or more law enforcement agencies and/or courts within a pre-defined radius around the applicant's residential address.

The issued 10043188 patent (see Attachment "B") includes independent claims 1, 5 and 9. The difference between 1 and 5 is that claim 1 is a method claims that recites performance of certain steps. Claim 5 covers a non-transitory computer-readable medium that has instructions on it that when executed by a computer processor, performs the same steps as in claim 1. Claim 9 covers a system that performs the steps recited in Claim 1. Elements in the independent claims 1, 5 and 9 include: determining a reference class of the reference source based on the reference set of program data; selecting a reference set of electronic documents based on the reference class of the reference source; and generating a suggested reference list of one or more law enforcement agencies based on an applicant address.

If you ask your personnel conducting background investigations to identify the most time consuming and tedious aspects of public safety background investigations, they will undoubtedly tell you, it's the reference checks.
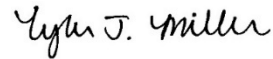
eSOPH's reference check system is repeatedly cited by agencies using eSOPH as the most beneficial aspect of the system; it notably reduces the time it takes to complete reference checks, by weeks.
When competing with other public safety agencies in the hiring of top candidates and filling vacancies quicker, this time savings equates to substantial, positive financial impact to those agencies using eSOPH.

The eSOPH features under patent allowed many city, county and state government agencies to sole source MMI's eSOPH Software as a Service (SaaS).

If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Tyler Miller
President & CEO

Links: Attachment A - U.S. Patent No. 9070098

                 Attachment B - U.S. Patent No. 10043188