

Figure 1

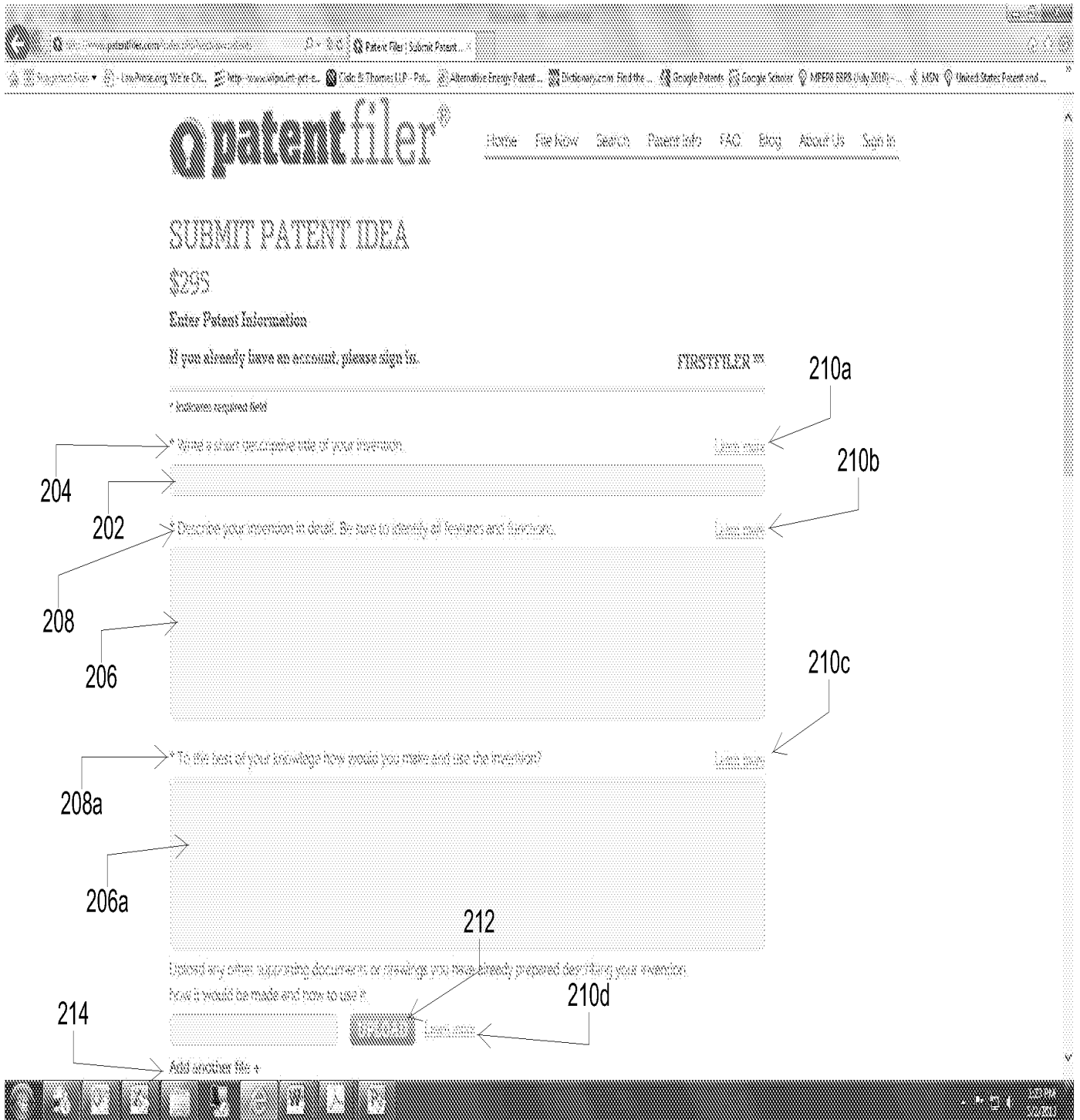


Figure 2A

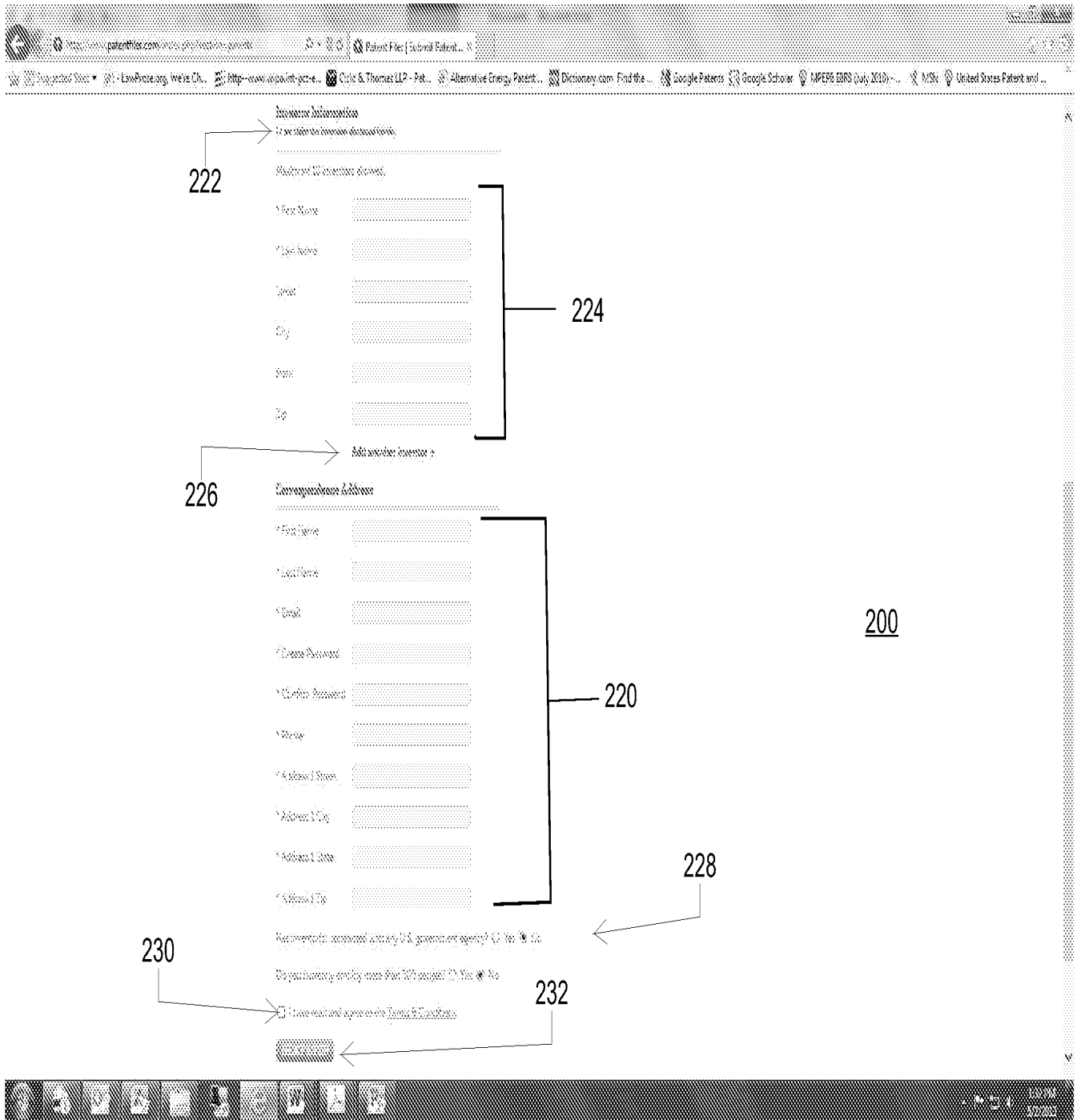


Figure 2B

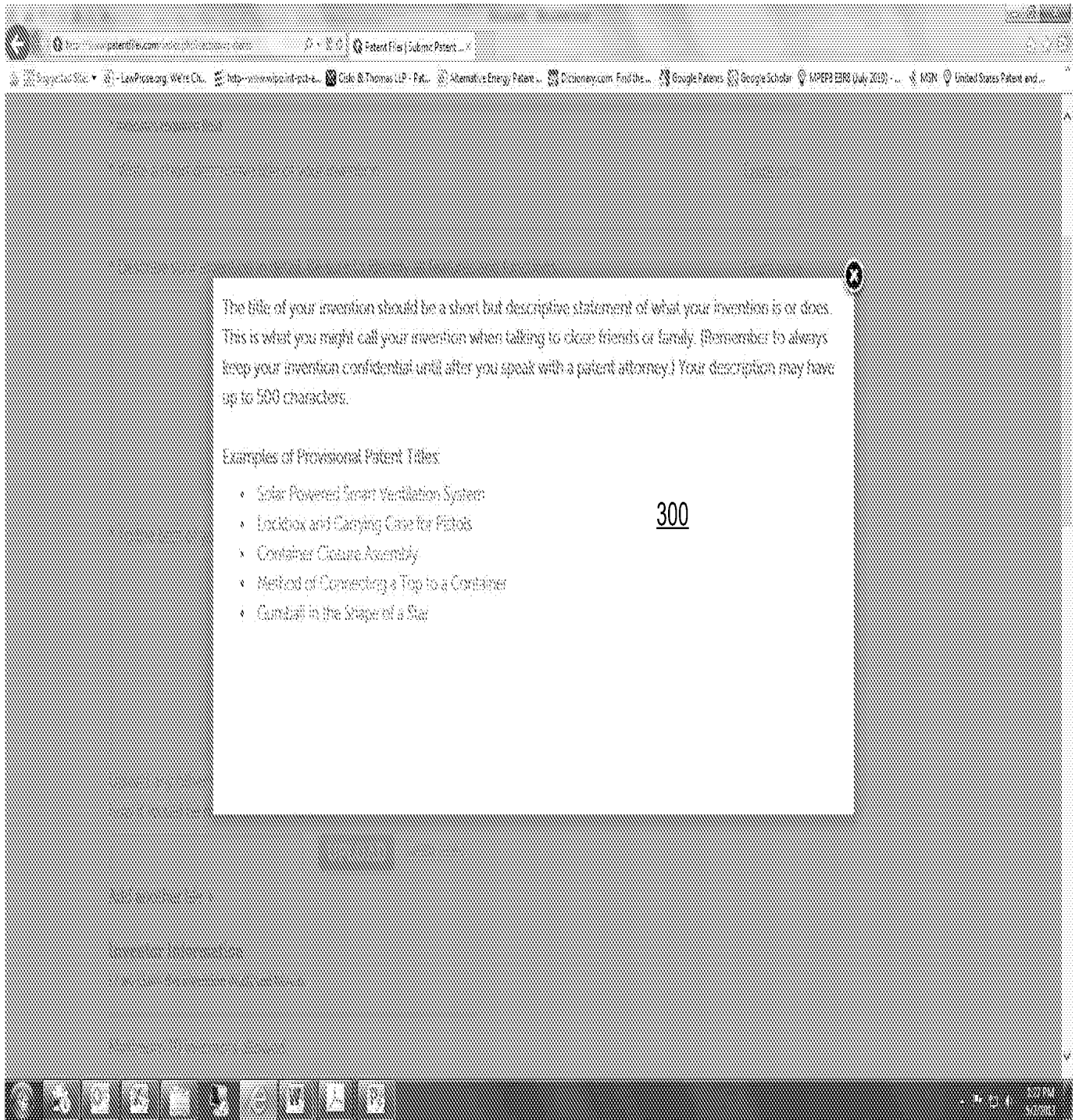


Figure 3

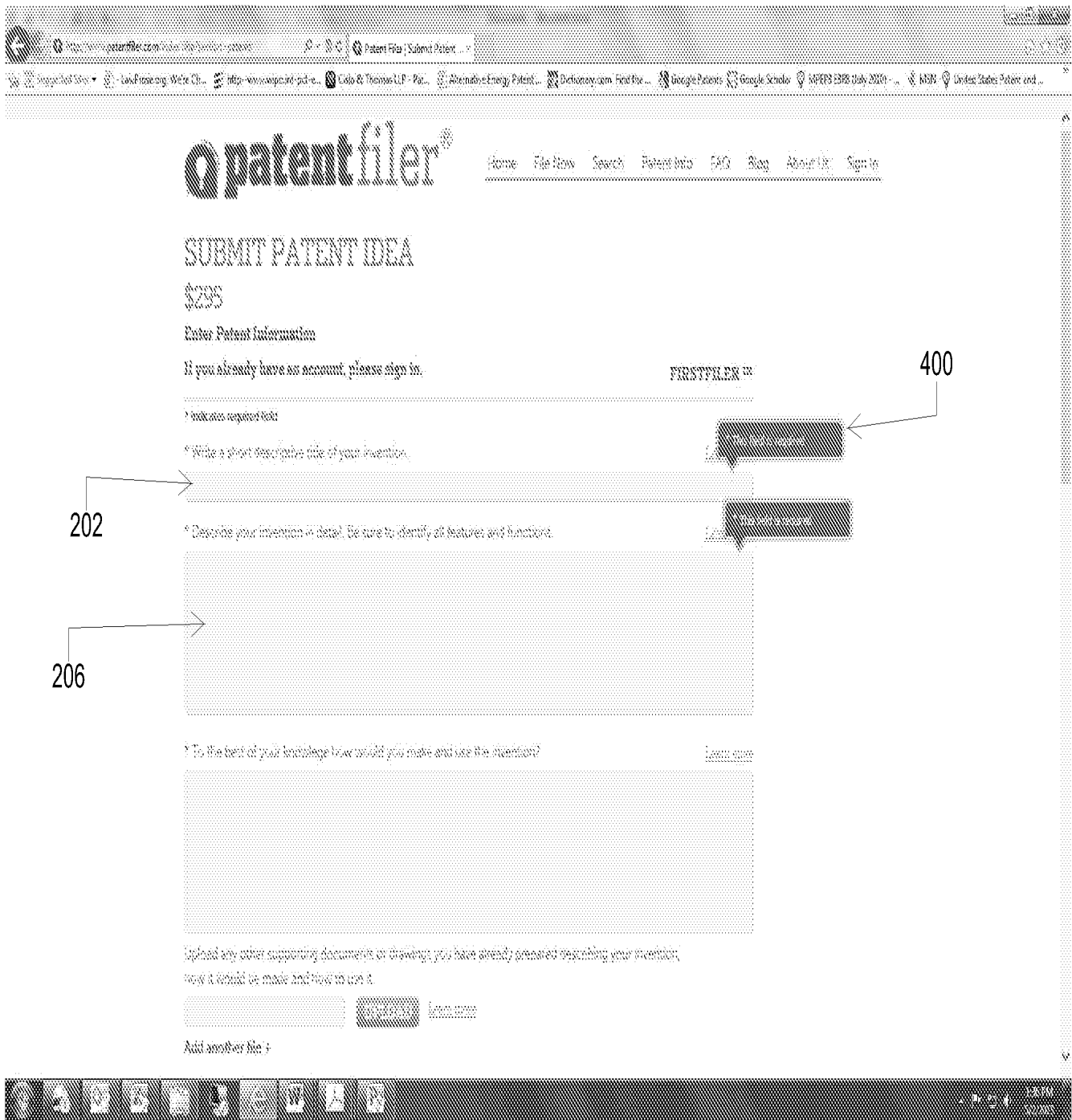


Figure 4

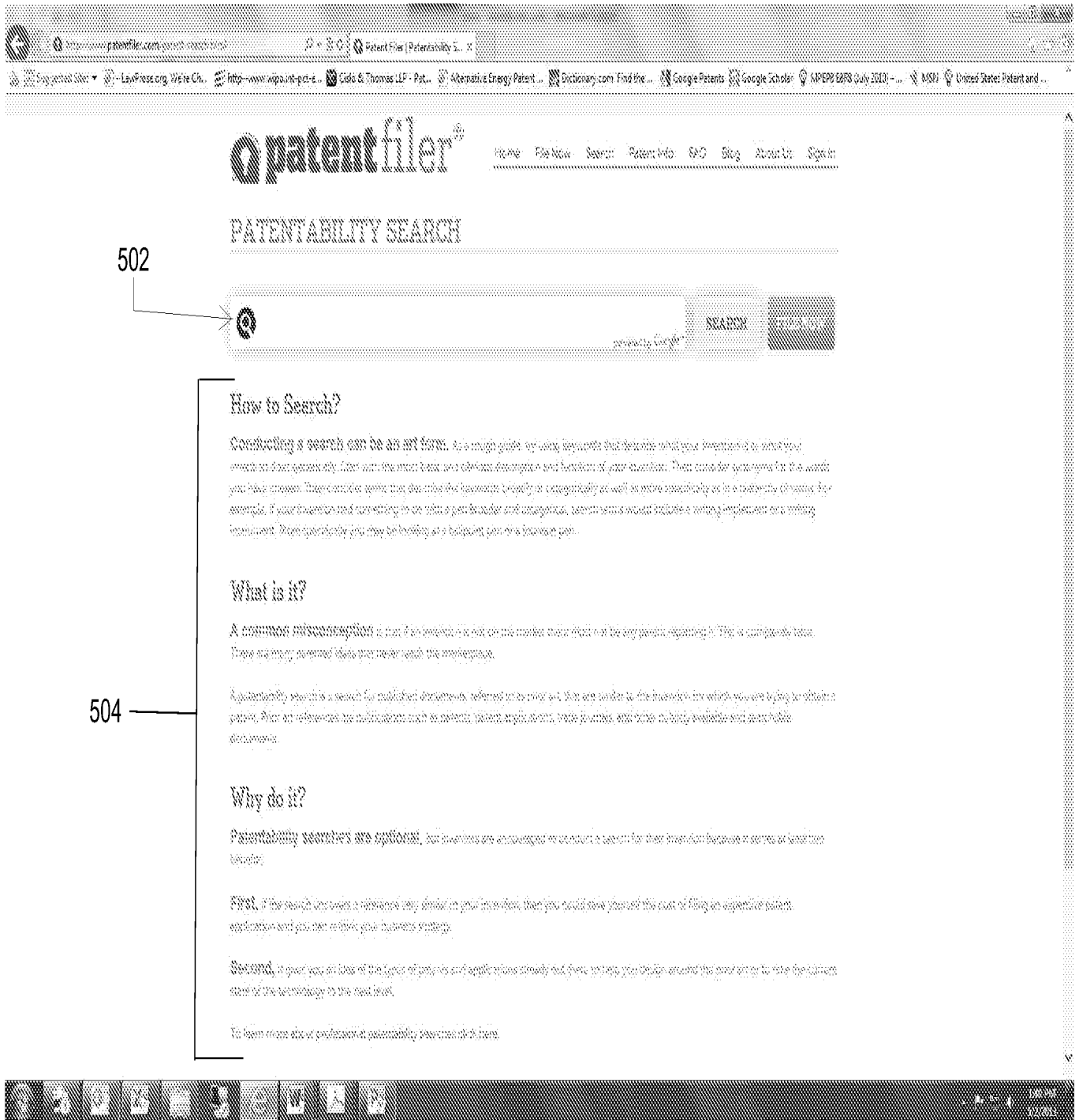
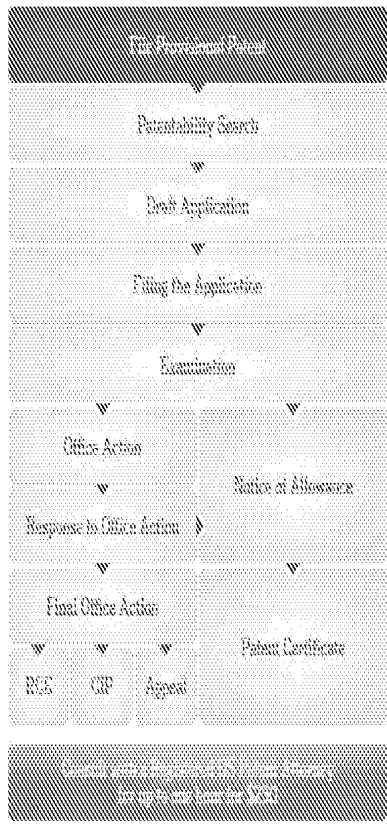


Figure 5



PATENT INFO

600



602

File Provisional Patent Application

Why is a Provisional Patent so important?

- ✦ The first suggested step in the patent acquisition process is filing a Provisional Patent Application.
- ✦ Provisional patent applications allow a filer to document their invention or invention and establish potential patent rights with a small monetary investment.
- ✦ With the passage of the America Invents Act in 2011, the provisional patent application has increased in importance for those looking to ensure ownership of their intellectual property. In years past, those with the proven date of invention had rights. Now we will move to a "first to file" system where only those who have filed first with the USPTO will have rights.
- ✦ Filing a provisional patent application ensures a filing date to the applicant, perhaps the first step towards issuance of a US patent. This filing date will not mature into an issued patent unless the applicant files a utility patent application within 12 months.
- ✦ Think of it like this... A Provisional Patent Application gives you 12 months to further develop your idea, get financing, create a prototype etc., while reserving your right to your idea.
- ✦ A sufficiently detailed provisional patent application can ensure the filer's claim to their intellectual property even in the face of patent claims filed before the hearing date for the non-provisional application.
- ✦ When a provisional patent application is filed, you can use the "Patent Pending" designation in advertising and packaging.

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Figure 6A

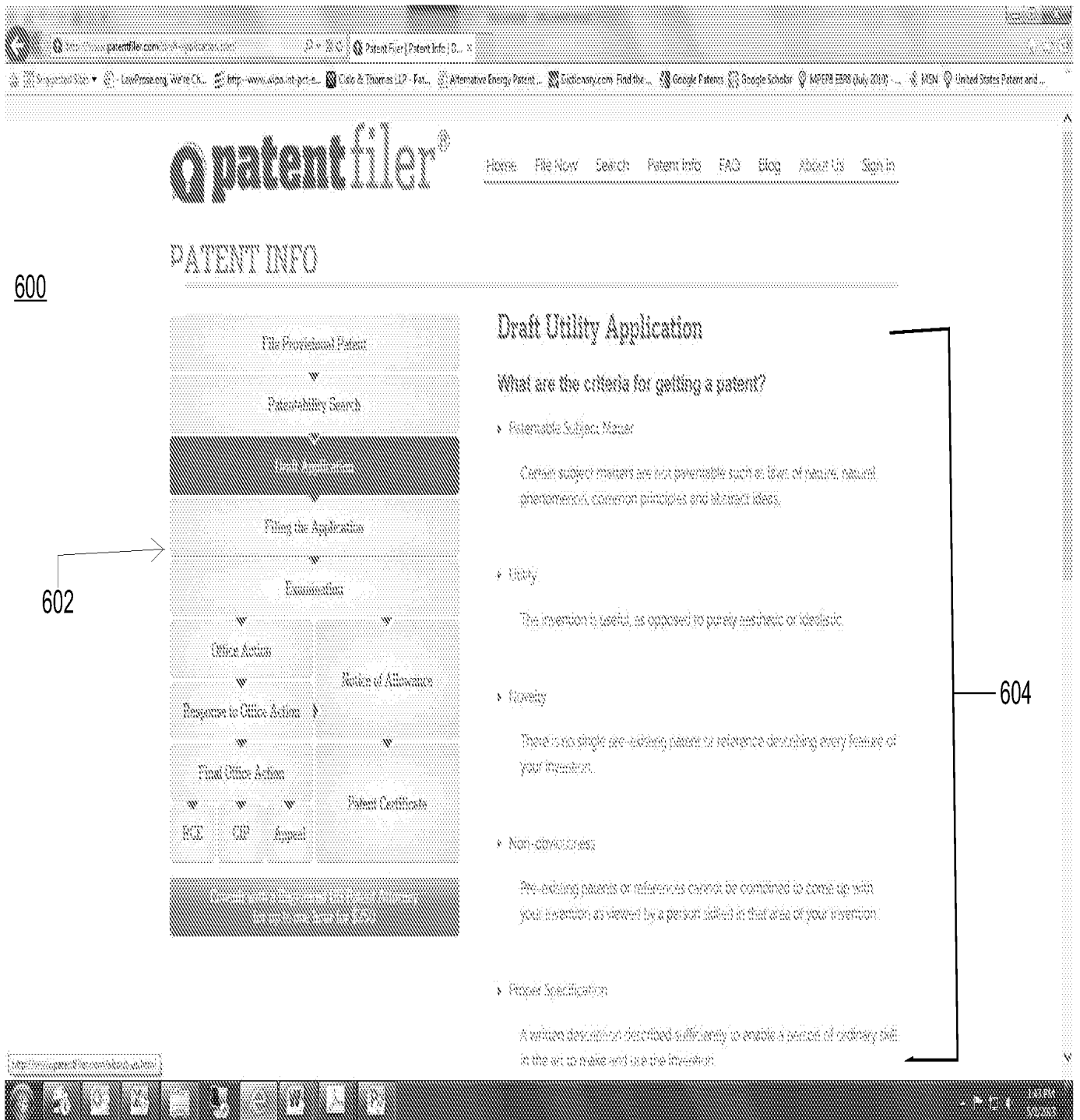


Figure 6B