Effective Filing Date Flowchart

Start: Earliest Filing Date of Subject Matter is:

Subject Matter Present in Chain of Continuation or Divisional Applications and not Appearing at the Earliest in a Provisional Application?

— YES → Subject Matter Present in Parent Application?

— YES → Effective Filing Date is Filing Date of Parent Application

Subject Matter Present in Parent Application? — NO → Effective Filing Date is Filing Date of Earliest Application Having Subject Matter

Subject Matter Present in Chain of Continuation... — NO → Provisional Application Filed Containing Subject Matter?

Provisional Application Filed Containing Subject Matter? — YES → Effective Filing Date is Filing Date of Provisional Application

Provisional Application Filed Containing Subject Matter? — NO → Effective Filing Date is Filing Date of Present Application

End: Priority Date Found