507021633 12/10/2021

PATENT ASSIGNMENT COVER SHEET

Electronic Version v1.1 Stylesheet Version v1.2 EPAS ID: PAT7068468

| SUBMISSION TYPE: | NEW ASSIGNMENT |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| NATURE OF CONVEYANCE: | ASSIGNMENT |

CONVEYING PARTY DATA

| Name | Execution Date |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| MANU JACOB KURIAN | 11/29/2021 |
| CARL PARZIALE | 11/29/2021 |
| DAVID SMIDDY | 11/29/2021 |
| HAROLD JOSEPH KENNEDY | 11/29/2021 |

RECEIVING PARTY DATA

| Name: | BANK OF AMERICA CORPORATION | |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Street Address: | MAILCODE: NC1-028-29-04 | |
| Internal Address: | ONE BANK OF AMERICA CENTER, 150 N. COLLEGE STREET | |
| City: | CHARLOTTE | |
| State/Country: | NORTH CAROLINA | |
| Postal Code: | 28255 | |

PROPERTY NUMBERS Total: 1

| Property Type | Number |
|---------------------|----------|
| Application Number: | 17547997 |

CORRESPONDENCE DATA

Fax Number: (704)339-5800

Correspondence will be sent to the e-mail address first; if that is unsuccessful, it will be sent using a fax number, if provided; if that is unsuccessful, it will be sent via US Mail.

Phone: 7043311000

Email: damionnenobles@mvalaw.com, iplaw@mvalaw.com,

bacdocket@mvalaw.com

Correspondent Name: MOORE & VAN ALLEN PLLC FOR BOFA
Address Line 1: 100 NORTH TRYON STREET, SUITE 4700

Address Line 2: ATTN: IP DEPARTMENT

Address Line 4: CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA 28202

| ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER: | 12915US1.014033-4186 |
|-------------------------|--|
| NAME OF SUBMITTER: | JAMES C. EDWARDS |
| SIGNATURE: | /James C. Edwards/ |
| DATE SIGNED: | 12/10/2021 |
| | This document serves as an Oath/Declaration (37 CFR 1.63). |

PATENT REEL: 058363 FRAME: 0194

Total Attachments: 12 source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page1.tif source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page2.tif source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page3.tif source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page4.tif source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page5.tif source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page6.tif source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page7.tif source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page8.tif source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page10.tif source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page11.tif source=12915US1-4186-CombinedDeclarationsAssignments-filed-12-10-2021#page12.tif

PATENT REEL: 058363 FRAME: 0195

PMN: 12915US1

COMBINED DECLARATION (37 CFR 1.63) AND ASSIGNMENT FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN APPLICATION USING AN APPLICATION DATA SHEET (37 CFR 1.76)

| Title of Invention | SYSTEM FOR ENHANCED AUTHENTICATION USING NON-FUNGIBLE TOKENS (NFTs) |
|--|---|
| As the below | named inventor, I hereby declare that: |
| This declarati | □ The attached application, or |
| | $oxed{oxed}$ United States application or PCT international application number filed on |
| The above-id | entified application was made or authorized to be made by me. |
| I believe that | I am the original inventor or an original joint inventor of a claimed invention in the application. |
| | owledge that any willful false statement made in this declaration is punishable under 18 U.S.C. 1001 by fine or to fine or to fine the five (5) years, or both. |
| | ASSIGNMENT |
| (City, State/P blank, the ab assignment, I | Manu Jacob Kurian ("Assignor"), a citizen of the United States of America (Country), residing in Dallas, Texas rovince) have invented the invention(s) described in the below listed application(s). If the following lines are ove application was filed on even date herewith, otherwise, to comply with 37 C.F.R. §3.21 for recordal of this, an assignor below, hereby authorize the attorneys for Bank of America to insert the filing date and application low after they become known and prior to filing the recordation. |
| | U.S. Application No. <u>17/547,997</u> , filed <u>December 10, 2021</u> . |
| Delaware, an | ANK OF AMERICA CORPORATION ("Assignee"), a Corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of d having its offices and place of business at Charlotte, North Carolina, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, est in and to the aforesaid inventions and in and to all applications and Letters Patent therefor granted in the |

title and interest in and to the aforesaid inventions and in and to all applications and Letters Patent therefor granted in the United States of America, and in any and all countries foreign thereto:

NOW, THEREFORE, TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, be it known that, for good and valuable consideration, including salary or payment for the making of inventions, or employee benefits, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I

said Assignor, by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal representatives, the full and exclusive right, title and interest for the territory of the United States of America and all countries foreign thereto, and throughout the world and in space, (including the right to apply for Letters Patent in foreign countries in its own name and to claim any priority rights for such foreign applications to which such applications are entitled under international conventions, treaties, or otherwise), in and to said inventions and in and to all applications and Letters Patent granted therefor, and all non-provisionals, divisionals, reissues, reexaminations, reviews, continuations, continuation-in-parts and extensions thereof, and in and to all copyrights, trademarks with their associated goodwill, trade secrets, confidential information, and compilations, necessary or useful to make, use, or sell the inventions. I hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents, and any official whose duty it is to issue patents, to issue all Letters Patent on said inventions or resulting therefrom to said Assignee, or its successors and assigns, as assignee of the entire right, title and interest. I represent and warrant that I have full right to agree to, execute, and deliver this assignment. I agree that I will without further consideration, but at the expense of Assignee, communicate to said Assignee, or its successors, assigns, or nominees, any and all facts known to me regarding said inventions whenever requested, and that I will execute all non-provisional, divisional, reissue, reexamination, continuation and continuation-in-part applications, testify in any legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, make all rightful oaths, and generally do everything reasonable for said Assignee, its successors, assigns, and nominees, to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said inventions in all countries.

[Page 1 of 3]

PMN: 12915US1

WARNING:

| LEGAL NAME OF INVENTOR | | |
|--|-------|--|
| Inventor: MANU JACOB KURIAN DocuSigned by: | Date: | |
| Signature: / Manu Jacob Eurian | L | |

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

- The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information
 Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the
 Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information
 Act
- 2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
- 3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
- 4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
- 5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- 6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
- 7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
- 8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
- 9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

countries.

Firm No.: 014033-004186

PMN: 12915US1

COMBINED DECLARATION (37 CFR 1.63) AND ASSIGNMENT FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN APPLICATION USING AN APPLICATION DATA SHEET (37 CFR 1.76)

| Title of Invention | SYSTEM FOR ENHANCED AUTHENTICATION USING NON-FUNGIBLE TOKENS (NFTs) |
|--|--|
| As the below | named inventor, I hereby declare that: |
| This declaration is directed to: | The attached application, or |
| The above-ide | entified application was made or authorized to be made by me. |
| I believe that | I am the original inventor or an original joint inventor of a claimed invention in the application. |
| • | owledge that any willful false statement made in this declaration is punishable under 18 U.S.C. 1001 by fine or to fine the five (5) years, or both. |
| | ASSIGNMENT |
| Park, Florida (following line for recordal o | Harold Joseph Kennedy ("Assignor"), a citizen of the United States of America (Country), residing in Winter (City, State/Province) have invented the invention(s) described in the below listed application(s). If the sare blank, the above application was filed on even date herewith, otherwise, to comply with 37 C.F.R. §3.21 f this assignment, I, an assignor below, hereby authorize the attorneys for Bank of America to insert the filing ication number(s) below after they become known and prior to filing the recordation. |
| | U.S. Application No, filed, filed |
| Delaware, and title and inter | NK OF AMERICA CORPORATION ("Assignee"), a Corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of d having its offices and place of business at Charlotte, North Carolina, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, est in and to the aforesaid inventions and in and to all applications and Letters Patent therefor granted in the of America, and in any and all countries foreign thereto: |
| payment for the said Assignor, representative countries for ecountries in it entitled under Letters Patent continuation-secrets, confiduationize and Patent on said right, title and agree that I was successors, as will execute a testify in any | FORE, TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, be it known that, for good and valuable consideration, including salary or the making of inventions, or employee benefits, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal es, the full and exclusive right, title and interest for the territory of the United States of America and all eign thereto, and throughout the world and in space, (including the right to apply for Letters Patent in foreign is own name and to claim any priority rights for such foreign applications to which such applications are reinternational conventions, treaties, or otherwise), in and to said inventions and in and to all applications and to granted therefor, and all non-provisionals, divisionals, reissues, reexaminations, reviews, continuations, in-parts and extensions thereof, and in and to all copyrights, trademarks with their associated goodwill, trade dential information, and compilations, necessary or useful to make, use, or sell the inventions. I hereby request the Commissioner of Patents, and any official whose duty it is to issue patents, to issue all Letters dinventions or resulting therefrom to said Assignee, or its successors and assigns, as assignee of the entire dinterest. I represent and warrant that I have full right to agree to, execute, and deliver this assignment. I will without further consideration, but at the expense of Assignee, communicate to said Assignee, or its signs, or nominees, any and all facts known to me regarding said inventions whenever requested, and that I ll non-provisional, divisional, reissue, reexamination, continuation and continuation-in-part applications, legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, make all rightful oaths, and generally do everything reasonable for its successors, assigns, and nominees, to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said inventions in all |

PMN: 12915US1

WARNING:

| | , |
|---|-------------------------|
| LEGAL NAME OF INVENTOR | |
| Inventor: HAROLD JOSEPH KENNEDY Docusigned by: | 11/29/2021 Date: |
| Signature: / Harold Joseph Kennedy / | |

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

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[Page 3 of 3]

countries.

Firm No.: 014033-004186

PMN: 12915US1

COMBINED DECLARATION (37 CFR 1.63) AND ASSIGNMENT FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN APPLICATION USING AN APPLICATION DATA SHEET (37 CFR 1.76)

| Title of Invention | SYSTEM FOR ENHANCED AUTHENTICATION USING NON-FUNGIBLE TOKENS (NFTs) | |
|--|---|--|
| As the below | named inventor, I hereby declare that: | |
| This declarati | | |
| | United States application or PCT international application number | |
| The above-ide | entified application was made or authorized to be made by me. | |
| I believe that | I am the original inventor or an original joint inventor of a claimed invention in the application. | |
| | owledge that any willful false statement made in this declaration is punishable under 18 U.S.C. 1001 by fine or tof not more than five (5) years, or both. | |
| | ASSIGNMENT | |
| WHEREAS, I, Carl Parziale ("Assignor"), a citizen of the United States of America (Country), residing in Charlotte, North Carolina (City, State/Province) have invented the invention(s) described in the below listed application(s). If the following lines are blank, the above application was filed on even date herewith, otherwise, to comply with 37 C.F.R. §3.21 for recordal of this assignment, I, an assignor below, hereby authorize the attorneys for Bank of America to insert the filing date and application number(s) below after they become known and prior to filing the recordation. | | |
| | U.S. Application No. <u>17/547,997</u> , filed <u>December 10, 2021</u> . | |
| Delaware, and title and inter | NNK OF AMERICA CORPORATION ("Assignee"), a Corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of d having its offices and place of business at Charlotte, North Carolina, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, est in and to the aforesaid inventions and in and to all applications and Letters Patent therefor granted in the of America, and in any and all countries foreign thereto: | |
| payment for t said Assignor, representativ countries fore countries in it entitled unde Letters Paten continuation- secrets, confi- authorize and Patent on said right, title and agree that I w successors, as will execute a testify in any | FORE, TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, be it known that, for good and valuable consideration, including salary or the making of inventions, or employee benefits, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal es, the full and exclusive right, title and interest for the territory of the United States of America and all eigh thereto, and throughout the world and in space, (including the right to apply for Letters Patent in foreign is own name and to claim any priority rights for such foreign applications to which such applications are reinternational conventions, treaties, or otherwise), in and to said inventions and in and to all applications and to granted therefor, and all non-provisionals, divisionals, reissues, reexaminations, reviews, continuations, in-parts and extensions thereof, and in and to all copyrights, trademarks with their associated goodwill, trade dential information, and compilations, necessary or useful to make, use, or sell the inventions. I hereby request the Commissioner of Patents, and any official whose duty it is to issue patents, to issue all Letters dinventions or resulting therefrom to said Assignee, or its successors and assigns, as assignee of the entire dinterest. I represent and warrant that I have full right to agree to, execute, and deliver this assignment. I will without further consideration, but at the expense of Assignee, communicate to said Assignee, or its signs, or nominees, any and all facts known to me regarding said inventions whenever requested, and that I ll non-provisional, divisional, reissue, reexamination, continuation and continuation-in-part applications, legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, make all rightful oaths, and generally do everything reasonable for | |

PMN: 12915US1

WARNING:

| LEGAL NAME OF INVENTOR | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Inventor: CARL PARZIALE | 11/29/2021 Date: | |
| Signature: _/ Carl Parziale | | |

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

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[Page 3 of 3]

PMN: 12915US1

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| Title of Invention | SYSTEM FOR ENHANCED AUTHENTICATION USING NON-FUNGIBLE TOKENS (NFTs) | |
|---|--|--|
| As the below | named inventor, I hereby declare that: | |
| This declarati | The attached application, or | |
| | United States application or PCT international application number | |
| The above-ide | entified application was made or authorized to be made by me. | |
| I believe that | I am the original inventor or an original joint inventor of a claimed invention in the application. | |
| | owledge that any willful false statement made in this declaration is punishable under 18 U.S.C. 1001 by fine or tof not more than five (5) years, or both. | |
| | ASSIGNMENT | |
| WHEREAS, I, David Smiddy ("Assignor"), a citizen of the United States of America (Country), residing in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania (City, State/Province) have invented the invention(s) described in the below listed application(s). If the following lines are blank, the above application was filed on even date herewith, otherwise, to comply with 37 C.F.R. §3.21 for recordal of this assignment, I, an assignor below, hereby authorize the attorneys for Bank of America to insert the filing date and application number(s) below after they become known and prior to filing the recordation. | | |
| | U.S. Application No, filed, filed | |
| Delaware, and title and inter | NK OF AMERICA CORPORATION ("Assignee"), a Corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of d having its offices and place of business at Charlotte, North Carolina, is desirous of acquiring the entire right, est in and to the aforesaid inventions and in and to all applications and Letters Patent therefor granted in the of America, and in any and all countries foreign thereto: | |
| payment for t said Assignor, representativ countries fore countries in it entitled unde Letters Paten continuation- secrets, confi- authorize and Patent on said right, title and agree that I w successors, as will execute a testify in any | FORE, TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, be it known that, for good and valuable consideration, including salary or he making of inventions, or employee benefits, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, I by these presents do sell, assign and transfer unto said Assignee, its successors, assigns and legal es, the full and exclusive right, title and interest for the territory of the United States of America and all eign thereto, and throughout the world and in space, (including the right to apply for Letters Patent in foreign sown name and to claim any priority rights for such foreign applications to which such applications are international conventions, treaties, or otherwise), in and to said inventions and in and to all applications and a granted therefor, and all non-provisionals, divisionals, reissues, reexaminations, reviews, continuations, in-parts and extensions thereof, and in and to all copyrights, trademarks with their associated goodwill, trade dential information, and compilations, necessary or useful to make, use, or sell the inventions. I hereby request the Commissioner of Patents, and any official whose duty it is to issue patents, to issue all Letters d inventions or resulting therefrom to said Assignee, or its successors and assigns, as assignee of the entire d interest. I represent and warrant that I have full right to agree to, execute, and deliver this assignment. I ill without further consideration, but at the expense of Assignee, communicate to said Assignee, or its usigns, or nominees, any and all facts known to me regarding said inventions whenever requested, and that I ll non-provisional, divisional, reissue, reexamination, continuation and continuation-in-part applications, legal proceedings, sign all lawful papers, make all rightful oaths, and generally do everything reasonable for its successors, assigns, and nominees, to obtain and enforce proper patent protection for said inventions in all | |

PMN: 12915US1

WARNING:

| | , , |
|--|-------------------------|
| LEGAL NAME OF INVENTOR | |
| Inventor: DAVID SMIDDY CocuSigned by: | 11/29/2021 Date: |
| Signature: / David Smiddy | |

The **Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

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 Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information
 Act
- 2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
- 3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
- 4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
- A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- 6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
- 7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
- 8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
- 9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

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