U.S. Department of Commerce U.S. Patent and Trademark Office



Privacy Impact Assessment for the Intellectual Property Assignment System (IPAS)

Reviewed by: Henry J. Holcombe, Bureau Chief Privacy Officer

| \boxtimes | Concurrence of Senior | Agency Official | for Privacy/DOC | Chief Privacy Officer |
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|

□ Non-concurrence of Senior Agency Official for Privacy/DOC Chief Privacy Officer

CHARLES CUTSHALL

Digitally signed by CHARLES CUTSHALL Date: 2024.03.22 09:52:44 -04'00'

Signature of Senior Agency Official for Privacy/DOC Chief Privacy Officer

Date

U.S. Department of Commerce Privacy Impact Assessment USPTO Intellectual Property Assignment System (IPAS)

Unique Project Identifier: EBPL-CCA-01-00

Introduction: System Description

Provide a brief description of the information system.

The Intellectual Property Assignment System (IPAS), known to the public as Assignment Center, allows for electronic assignment of a patent or trademark via website. Users are able to create an assignment document, fill in all required data, and attach required supporting legal documents. This is a document management workflow system that supports the processing of assignment documents through electronic submission, image capture, Optical Character Recognition (OCR) text capture, automated workflow processing, management and inventory reporting and generation of electronic output of recorded documents from electronic images.

The IPAS environment has both user and backend applications to support the recordation of assignments. Consisting of several user experiences allowing the user to enter required data elements, classify document types, review supporting documentation in image format, and assess the submission for recordation status; backend data transactions are used to handle database updating, communications with other applications well as COTS workflow for routing work packets (documents) to the proper user application/queues for completion of the recordation tasks.

This system will replace 6 legacy assignment products: Electronic Trademark Assignment System (ETAS), Electronic Patent Assignment System (EPAS), Patent and Trademark Assignment System (PTAS), Assignment Historical Database (AHD), Assignments on the Web (AOTW) and Developer Hub – Assignment Search (DH-AS).

Address the following elements:

- (a) Whether it is a general support system, major application, or other type of system IPAS is a Major Application.
- (b) System location AWS Clouds Northeast Region (USA Virginia).
- (c) Whether it is a standalone system or interconnects with other systems (identifying and describing any other systems to which it interconnects)

IPAS interconnects with:

Identity as a Service (ICAM IDaaS) – ICAM IDaaS provides unified access management across applications and Application Programming Interface (API) based on single sign-on service. Identity and access management is provided by Okta's cloud-based solution which uses Universal Directory to create and manage users and groups.

Infrastructure Code Table (ICT) - ICT is a component (building block) that can be utilized by other products. An Automated Information System (AIS) learns what is available and how to use the services through Web Services standards. ICT is a centralized location that provides UI Admin application and services for AIS' to access sets of enterprise-wide codes that are universal to USPTO business areas. Frequently needed information is the Country and Geographic Region codes; however, the ICT component is designed to be flexible with the ability to add additional types of codes such as codes for a particular organization.

Fee Processing Next Generation (FPNG) - Fee management for external customers (Financial Manager, payment page / services, and fee services consumed by other systems) and fee management for internal customers (e.g. Fee Processing Portal for processing fees and refunds).

Trademark Record Management (TRM) - Provides systems for internal users, such as examining attorneys, paralegals, and professional staff, to conduct all activities necessary for trademark examination and maintenance including the ability to review application and registration documents, search the Trademark register, draft and issue notices and Office actions, and modify application and registration data.

Patent Application Location Monitoring Examination and Post-Examination (PALM-EXPO) - Patent Administrative Center allows reviewers to conduct formalities, document and fee reviews; manage bibliographic data, applicant representatives and correspondence information for numerous application types; and to validate fees and export documents.

- (d) The way the system operates to achieve the purpose(s) identified in Section 4
 Public Users log into IPAS using their account information and are able to create an assignment document, fill in all required data, and attach required supporting legal documents.
- (e) How information in the system is retrieved by the user
 Users are able to create an assignment document, fill in all required data, and attach required supporting legal documents. After submission a public user has access to his/her submissions.
- (f) How information is transmitted to and from the system
 Assignment Request will be routed to internal assignment staff for processing throughout the document management workflow system that supports the processing of assignment documents through electronic submission, image capture, OCR text capture, automated workflow processing, management and inventory reporting and generation of computer output microfilm of recorded documents from electronic images.
- (g) Any information sharing Information is shared with PALM-EXPO and Trademark Record Management (TRM).
- (h) The specific programmatic authorities (statutes or Executive Orders) for collecting, maintaining, using, and disseminating the information
 5 U.S.C. 301; 15 U.S.C §§ 1051-1141n and 35 U.S.C §§ 1, 2, 6, and 261; the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, Public Law 106-229; 28 U.S.C. 533-535; 44

U.S.C. 1301; Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 and IRS Publication-1075.

(i) The Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 199 security impact category for the Moderate **Section 1: Status of the Information System** 1.1 Indicate whether the information system is a new or existing system. \boxtimes This is a new information system. This is an existing information system with changes that create new privacy risks. (Check all that apply.) Changes That Create New Privacy Risks (CTCNPR) g. New Interagency Uses a. Conversions d. Significant Merging h. Internal Flow or b. Anonymous to None. New Public Access \Box Anonymous Collection f. Commercial Sources i. Alteration in Character c. Significant System П Management Changes of Data j. Other changes that create new privacy risks (specify): ☐ This is an existing information system in which changes do not create new privacy risks, and there is not a SAOP approved Privacy Impact Assessment. This is an existing information system in which changes do not create new privacy risks, and there is a SAOP approved Privacy Impact Assessment. **Section 2: Information in the System** 2.1 Indicate what personally identifiable information (PII)/business identifiable information (BII) is collected, maintained, or disseminated. (Check all that apply.) Identifying Numbers (IN) j. Financial Account a. Social Security* f. Driver's License g. Passport k. Financial Transaction b. TaxpayerID c. EmployerID h. Alien Registration Vehicle Identifier d. Employee ID Credit Card m. Medical Record e. File/Case ID n. Other identifying numbers (specify): Patentapplication and/or serial number Trademark application and/or registration or serial number

*Explanation for the business need to collect, maintain, or disseminate the Social Security number, including

| truncated form: | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--|-------------|---|-------------|
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| General Personal Data (GP) | D) | | | _ | |
| a. Name | \boxtimes | h. Date of Birth | | o. Financial Information | |
| b. Maiden Name | | i. Place of Birth | | p. MedicalInformation | |
| c. Alias | | j. Home Address | \boxtimes | q. Military Service | |
| d. Gender | | k. Telephone Number | \boxtimes | r. Criminal Record | |
| e. Age | | l. Email Address | \boxtimes | s. MaritalStatus | |
| f. Race/Ethnicity | | m. Education | | t. Mother's Maiden Name | |
| g. Citizenship | \boxtimes | n. Religion | | | |
| u. Other general personal da | ta (spec | cify): mailing address | | | • |
| | | | | | |
| Work-Related Data (WRD) | | | | | |
| a. Occupation | Ιп | e. Work Email Address | \boxtimes | i. Business Associates | \boxtimes |
| b. Job Title | | f. Salary | | j. Proprietary or Business Information | \boxtimes |
| c. Work Address | \boxtimes | g. Work History | | k. Procurement/contracting records | |
| d. Work Telephone Number | \boxtimes | h. Employment Performance Ratings or other Performance Information | | | |
| l. Other work-related data (s | specify |): | • | | |
| | | | | | |
| Distinguishing Features/Bio | metric | | | | |
| a. Fingerprints | | f. Scars, Marks, Tattoos | | k. Signatures | \boxtimes |
| b. Palm Prints | | g. Hair Color | | l. Vascular Scans | |
| c. Voice/Audio Recording | | h. Eye Color | | m. DNA Sample or Profile | |
| d. Video Recording | | i. Height | | n. Retina/Iris Scans | |
| e. Photographs | | j. Weight | | o. Dental Profile | |
| p. Other distinguishing feat | ures/bio | ometrics (specify): | | | |
| System Administration/Aud | lit Date | o (SAAD) | | | |
| a. User ID | | c. Date/Time of Access | \boxtimes | e. IDFiles Accessed | \boxtimes |
| b. IP Address | | f. Queries Run | \boxtimes | f. Contents of Files | \boxtimes |
| g. Other system a dministrat | | | | <u> </u> | |
| | | ··· (-F)). | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Other Information (specify) | | | | | |
| | | | | | |

2.2 Indicate sources of the PII/BII in the system. (Check all that apply.)

| Directly from Individual about Whom the Information Pertains | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| In Person | ☐ Hard Copy: Mail/Fax | | \boxtimes | Online | \boxtimes |
| Telephone | | Email | | | |
| Other(specify): online PII/BII | offut | ure owner of the patent or traden | nark | | |
| | | | | | |
| Government Sources | | | | | |
| Within the Bureau | | Other DOC Bureaus | | Other Federal Agencies | |
| State, Local, Tribal | | Foreign | | | |
| Other (specify): | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Non-government Sources | | | | | |
| Public Organizations | | Private Sector | | Commercial Data Brokers | |
| Third Party Website or Application | | | | | |
| Other(specify): | | | | | |

2.3 Describe how the accuracy of the information in the system is ensured.

The accuracy of the information in the system is ensured by receiving the information directly from the individuals. Individuals are able to review and update their information to ensure the accuracy is maintained. Intellectual Property Assignment System (IPAS) is secured using appropriate administrative physical and technical safeguards in accordance with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) security controls (encryption, access control, and auditing). Mandatory IT awareness and role-based training is required for staff who have access to the system and address how to handle, retain, and dispose of data. All access has role-based restrictions and individuals with privileges have undergone vetting and suitability screening. The USPTO maintains an audit trail and performs random, periodic reviews (quarterly) to identify unauthorized access and changes as part of verifying the integrity of administrative account holder data and roles. Inactive accounts will be deactivated and roles will be deleted from the application.

2.4 Is the information covered by the Paperwork Reduction Act?

| \boxtimes | Yes, the information is covered by the Paperwork Reduction Act. |
|-------------|--|
| | Provide the OMB control number and the agency number for the collection. |
| | 0651-0027 Recording Assignments |
| | 0651-0009 Applications for Trademark Registration |
| | No, the information is not covered by the Pa perwork Reduction Act. |
| _ | |

| 2.5 Indicate the technologies used that condeployed. (Check all that apply.) | ntain PIl | I/BII in ways that have not been previousl | У |
|--|--------------------|--|---------------------|
| Technologies Used Containing PII/BII Not P | reviously | v Denloved (TUCPRNPD) | |
| Smart Cards | | Biometrics | Тп |
| Caller-ID | $+$ $\overline{-}$ | Personal Identity Verification (PIV) Cards | $+\overline{-}$ |
| Other (specify): Multi-Factor Authentication is | required | , , , | 1 — |
| ☐ There are not any technologies used that | t contain F | PII/BII in ways that have not been previously deple | oyed. |
| Section 3: System Supported Activities 3.1 Indicate IT system supported activities apply.) | | ch raise privacy risks/concerns. (Check a | ll tha |
| Activities | | | |
| Audio recordings | | Building entry readers | |
| Video surveillance | | Electronic purchase transactions | |
| | | | |
| ☐ There are not any IT system supported a | ctivities w | which raise privacy risks/concerns. | |
| Fection 4: Purpose of the System 1.1 Indicate why the PII/BII in the IT sy (Check all that apply.) Purpose | ystem is | being collected, maintained, or dissemin | ated. |
| For a Computer Matching Program | $\Box\Box$ | For a dministering human resources programs | Τп |
| For administrative matters | | To promote information sharing initiatives | |
| Forlitigation | $\frac{1}{\Box}$ | For criminal law enforcement activities | $+ \overline{\Box}$ |
| For civil enforcement activities | + | For intelligence activities | + |
| To improve Federal services online | | For employee or customer satisfaction | |
| For web measurement and customization technologies (single-session) | | For web measurement and customization technologies (multi-session) | |
| Other (specify): | | teemologies (muiti-session) | |

Section 5: Use of the Information

5.1 In the context of functional areas (business processes, missions, operations, etc.) supported by the IT system, describe how the PII/BII that is collected, maintained, or disseminated will be used. Indicate if the PII/BII identified in Section 2.1 of this document is in reference to a federal employee/contractor, member of the public, foreign national, visitor or other (specify).

Public users are able to create an assignment document, fill in all required data, and attach required supporting legal documents. This is a document management workflow system that supports the processing of assignment documents through electronic submission, image capture, OCR text capture, automated workflow processing, management and inventory reporting and generation of computer output microfilm of recorded documents from electronic images. The IPAS environment has both user and backend applications to support the recordation of assignments.

5.2 Describe any potential threats to privacy, such as insider threat, as a result of the bureau's/operating unit's use of the information, and controls that the bureau/operating unit has put into place to ensure that the information is handled, retained, and disposed appropriately. (For example: mandatory training for system users regarding appropriate handling of information, automatic purging of information in accordance with the retention schedule, etc.)

In the event of computer failure, insider threats, or attack against the system by adversarial or foreign entities, any potential PII data stored within the system could be exposed. To avoid a breach, the system has certain security controls in place to ensure the information is handled, retained, and disposed of appropriately. Access to individual's PII is controlled through the identity management application used to manage access into IPAS, and all personnel who access the data must first authenticate to the system at which time an audit trail is generated when the database is accessed. These audit trails are maintained within the identity management system which logs reports reviewed by the Information System Security Officer (ISSO) and System Auditor and any suspicious indicators such as browsing will be immediately investigated and appropriate action taken. Also, system users undergo annual mandatory training regarding appropriate handling of information.

NIST security controls are in place to ensure that information is handled, retained, and disposed of appropriately. For example, advanced encryption is used to secure the data both during transmission and while stored at rest. Access to individual's PII is controlled through the application and all personnel who access the data must first authenticate to the system at which time an audit trail is generated when the database is accessed. USPTO requires annual security role based training and annual mandatory security awareness procedure training for all employees. All offices of the USPTO adhere to the USPTO Records Management Office's

| Comprehensive Records Schedule that describes the types of USPTO records and their | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--|
| corresponding disposition authority or citation. | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| action (. Informatic St | A 00000 | | | |
| ection 6: Information Sharing and | Access | | | |
| .1 Indicate with whom the bureau | intends to share the I | PII/BII in the IT syst | em and how the | |
| PII/BII will be shared. (Check of | | | 3114 110 11 1110 | |
| (2200 | | | | |
| Recipient | | w Information will be S | | |
| Within the bureau | Case-by-Case | Bulk Transfer | Direct Access | |
| DOC bureaus | | | | |
| Federal a gencies | | | | |
| State, local, tribal gov't agencies | | | | |
| Public Public | | | | |
| Private sector | | | | |
| Foreign governments | | | | |
| Foreign entities | | | | |
| Other(specify): Individual Requester | | | | |
| (1)/ | | | | |
| ☐ The PII/BII in the system will not be | shared. | | | |
| | | | | |
| .2 Does the DOC bureau/operating | gunit place a limitation | on on re-disseminat | ion of PII/BII | |
| shared with external agencies/ei | • | | | |
| | | | | |
| Yes, the external a gency/entity is req | uired to verify with the I | DOC bureau/operating u | ınit before re- | |
| dissemination of PII/BII. | | | | |
| No, the external a gency/entity is not | required to verify with the | ne DOC bureau/operatir | ng unit before re- | |
| dissemination of PII/BII. No, the bureau/operating unit does not share PII/BII with external a gencies/entities. | | | | |
| | otshare PII/BII with exte | ernal a gencies/entities | | |
| | ot share PII/BII with exte | ernal a gencies/entities. | | |
| | | | om any other IT | |

| | process PII and/or BII. | | mation from a nother IT system(s) a uthorize technical controls which prevent PII/BII | | |
|-------------|--|---|---|---|--|
| | ICAM IDaaS FPNG | | | | |
| | disposed of appropriately. For exaboth during transmission and which controlled through the application authenticate to the system at which accessed. USPTO requires annual security awareness procedure trainadhere to the USPTO Records Mathat describes the types of USPTO or citation. | ample, ad ile stored and all th time a l security ning for anageme D records | are that information is handled, retain dvanced encryption is used to secure at rest. Access to individual's PII is personnel who access the data must an audit trail is generated when the day role based training and annual manual employees. All offices of the US and Office's Comprehensive Records and their corresponding dispositions in formation from a nother IT system(s) at | e the data first atabase is adatory PTO s Schedule authority | |
| | Identify the class of users who will all that apply.) s of Users | have ac | cess to the IT system and the PII/BI | l. (Check | |
| | eral Public | \boxtimes | Government Employees | \triangleright | |
| Cont | tractors | | | | |
| Othe | er(specify): | | | | |
| 7.1 | n7: Notice and Consent Indicate whether individuals will be disseminated by the system. (Chec | | d if their PII/BII is collected, mainta t apply.) | ined, or | |
| \boxtimes | Yes, notice is provided pursuant to a system of records notice published in the Federal Register and discussed in Section 9. | | | | |
| \boxtimes | Yes, notice is provided by a Privacy Act statement and/or privacy policy. The Privacy Act statement and/or privacy policy can be found at: https://www.uspto.gov/privacy-policy | | | | |
| | Yes, notice is provided by other means. | Specify | how: | | |
| | No, notice is not provided. | Specify | why not: | | |
| | | 1 | | | |

| | Yes, individuals have an opportunity to | Specify how: | |
|-------------|--|--|--|
| | decline to provide PII/BII. | | |
| \boxtimes | No, individuals do not have an | Specify why not: The PII/BII is required in order to process the | |
| | opportunity to decline to provide | request. If a user does not provide the data a change of | |
| | PII/BII. | ownership request cannot be submitted. | |
| 7.3 | Indicate whether and how individu their PII/BII. | als have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of | |
| | Yes, individuals have an opportunity to consent to particular uses of their PII/BII. | Specify how: | |
| \boxtimes | No, individuals do not have an | Specify why not: The PII/BII is required in order to process the | |
| | opportunity to consent to particular | request. If a user does not provide the data a change of | |
| | uses of their PII/BII. | ownership request cannot be submitted. | |
| 7.4 | pertaining to them. | als have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII | |
| | Yes, individuals have an opportunity to review/update PII/BII pertaining to them. | Specify how: | |
| \boxtimes | No, individuals do not have an | Specify why not: Individual requesters can review their | |
| | opportunity to review/update PII/BII | application prior to submission. Once the documentation is | |
| | pertaining to them. | submitted, it is not reviewable by the individual until they receive the decision. | |
| | | receive the decision. | |
| | | | |
| Soction | on 8: Administrative and Technol | ogical Controls | |
| Secur | on o. Administrative and Technol | ogical Court ofs | |
| 8.1 | Indicate the administrative and tech | nnological controls for the system. (Check all that | |
| | apply.) | | |
| | All users signed a confidentiality a green | gent or non-disclosure agreement | |
| | , , | ct that includes the requirement for confidentiality. | |
| \boxtimes | · · | | |
| \boxtimes | , , , | ed training on privacy and confidentiality policies and practices. | |
| \boxtimes | Access to the PII/BII is restricted to authorized personnel only. | | |
| \boxtimes | Access to the PII/BII is being monitored, tracked, or recorded. | | |
| | Explanation: Through audit logs, scans a | and monitoring the site for malicious activity | |
| \boxtimes | The information is secured in a ccordanc (FISMA) requirements. Provide date of most recent Assessment | e with the Federal Information Security Modernization Act | |
| | | e will be provided when the A&A package is approved. | |
| | | | |
| | The Federal Information Processing Star | idard (FIPS) 199 security impact category for this system is a | |
| \boxtimes | The Federal Information Processing Star moderate or higher. | ndard (FIPS) 199 security impact category for this system is a | |
| | moderate or higher. NIST Special Publication (SP) 800-122 a | and NIST SP 800-53 Revision 5 recommended security controls nctioning as intended; or have a na pproved Plan of Action and | |

| | Milestones (POA&M). |
|-------------|--|
| \boxtimes | A security assessment report has been reviewed for the information system and it has been determined that there are no additional privacy risks. |
| \boxtimes | Contractors that have access to the system are subject to information security provisions in their contracts required by DOC policy. |
| | Contracts with customers establish DOC ownership rights over data including PII/BII. |
| \boxtimes | Acceptance of liability for exposure of PII/BII is clearly defined in a greements with customers. |
| | Other(specify): |

8.2 Provide a general description of the technologies used to protect PII/BII on the IT system. (Include data encryption in transit and/or at rest, if applicable).

PII within the system is secured using appropriate management, operational, and technical safeguards in accordance with NIST requirements. Such management controls include a review process to ensure that management controls are in place and documented in the System Security Privacy Plan (SSPP). The SSPP specifically addresses the management, operational, and technical controls that are in place and planned during the operation of the system. Operational safeguards include restricting access to PII/BII data to a small subset of users. All access has role-based restrictions and individuals with access privileges have undergone vetting and suitability screening. Data is maintained in areas accessible only to authorized personnel. The system maintains an audit trail and the appropriate personnel is alerted when there is suspicious activity. Data is encrypted in transit and at rest.

| Secti | n 9: Privacy Act |
|---|---|
| 9.1 | s the PII/BII searchable by a personal identifier (e.g, name or Social Security number)? |
| | ✓ Yes, the PII/BII is searchable by a personal identifier. |
| | □ No, the PII/BII is not searchable by a personal identifier. |
| 9.2 | Indicate whether a system of records is being created under the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a. (A new system of records notice (SORN) is required if the system is not covered by an existing SORN). As per the Privacy Act of 1974, "the term 'system of records' means a group of any records under the control of any agency from which information is retrieved by the name of the individual or by some identifying number, symbol, or other identifying particular assigned to the individual." |
| \boxtimes | Yes, this system is covered by an existing system of records notice (SORN). Provide the SORN name, number, and link. (List all that apply): This is a system of record but not sure if we'll use the existing SORN or start a new SORN. |
| COMMERCE/PAT-TM-9 Patent Assignment Records | |
| | COMMERCE/PAT-TM-26 Trademark Application and Registration Records |
| | COMMERCE/DEPT-25 Access Control and Identity Management System |

| | TV CODNI 1 1 24 14 1 D 4 4 C 1 (14) | |
|--------------|--|-----|
| | Yes, a SORN has been submitted to the Department for approval on (date). | |
| | No, this system is not a system of records and a SORN is not applicable. | |
| ection (0.1) | on 10: Retention of Information Indicate whether these records are covered by an approved records control schedule monitored for compliance. (Check all that apply.) | and |
| \boxtimes | There is an approved record control schedule. Provide the name of the record control schedule: | |
| | Patent Examination Feeder Records – N1-241-10-1:4.4 Patent Post-Examination Feeder Records – N1-241-10-1:4.5 Trademark Case File Feeder Records and Related Indexes – N1-241-06-2:4 No, there is not an approved record control schedule. Provide the stage in which the project is in developing and submitting a records control schedule: | |
| \boxtimes | Yes, retention is monitored for compliance to the schedule. | |
| | No, retention is not monitored for compliance to the schedule. Provide explanation: | |
| Disj | Indicate the disposal method of the PII/BII. (Check all that apply.) | |
| | edding Overwriting | |
| _ | aussing Deleting | |
| Oth | er (specify): Follow records retention schedule with Records Archive | |
| ection 1.1 | Indicate the potential impact that could result to the subject individuals and/or the organization if PII were inappropriately accessed, used, or disclosed. (The PII Confidentiality Impact Level is not the same, and does not have to be the same, as to Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 199 security impact category.) | he |
| | Low—the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a limited adverged effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals. Moderate—the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a serious a dverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals. High—the loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability could be expected to have a severe or catastrophic adverse effect on organizational operations, organizational assets, or individuals. | |

11.2 Indicate which factors were used to determine the above PII confidentiality impact level. (Check all that apply.)

| \boxtimes | Identifiability | Provide explanation: Name, telephone number, home a ddress, and email can all be used to identify an individual. |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| \boxtimes | Quantity of PII | Provide explanation: Average 55,000 assignments/month. Each assignment has the noted a bove types of PII. |
| \boxtimes | Data Field Sensitivity | Provide explanation: Low sensitivity. Name, telephone number, home address, and email. |
| | Context of Use | Provide explanation: Used to assign the patent or trademark to the user requesting the assignment or to identify the person assigned. |
| | Obligation to Protect Confidentiality | Provide explanation: USPTO must protect the PII of each individual in a ccordance to the Priva cy Act of 1974 and USPTO Priva cy Policy requires the PII information collected within the system to be protected in a ccordance with NIST SP 800-122, Guide to Protecting the Confidentiality of Personally Identifiable Information. |
| | Access to and Location of PII | Provide explanation: AWS Cloud. Only accessible to the submitter, USPTO designated employee and contractors. If accepted the PII will be madepublic. |
| | Other: | Provide explanation: |

Section 12: Analysis

12.1 Identify and evaluate any potential threats to privacy that exist in light of the information collected or the sources from which the information is collected. Also, describe the choices that the bureau/operating unit made with regard to the type or quantity of information collected and the sources providing the information in order to prevent or mitigate threats to privacy. (For example: If a decision was made to collect less data, include a discussion of this decision; if it is necessary to obtain information from sources other than the individual, explain why.)

The PII in this system poses a low risk if exposed since the system only collects Name, telephone number, home address, and email. System users undergo annual mandatory training regarding appropriate handling of information. Physical access to servers is restricted to only a few authorized individuals. The servers storing the potential PII are located in a highly sensitive zone within the cloud and logical access is segregated with network firewalls and switches through an Access Control list that limits access to only a few approved and authorized accounts. USPTO monitors, in real-time, all activities and events within the servers storing the potential PII data and personnel review audit logs received on a regular bases and alert the appropriate personnel when inappropriate or unusual activity is identified.

12.2 Indicate whether the conduct of this PIA results in any required business process changes.

| | | Yes, the conduct of this PIA results in required business process changes. Explanation: |
|---|-------------|--|
| | \boxtimes | No, the conduct of this PIA does not result in any required business process changes. |
| 12.3 Indicate whether the conduct of this PIA results in any required technology changes. | | |
| | | Yes, the conduct of this PIA results in required technology changes. Explanation: |
| | \boxtimes | No, the conduct of this PIA does not result in any required technology changes. |