# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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BEFORE THE PATENT TRIAL AND APPEAL BOARD

UNIFIED PATENTS INC., Petitioner,

v.

CUICA, LLC, Patent Owner.

IPR2016-01644 U.S. Patent 6,466,983 B1

Before MATTHEW R. CLEMENTS, JENNIFER MEYER CHAGNON, and SHEILA F. McSHANE, *Administrative Patent Judges*.

McSHANE, Administrative Patent Judge.

ORDER
Conduct of the Proceeding
37 C.F.R. § 42.05



## **DISCUSSION**

As set forth in the Summary of the January 18, 2017 Conference Call (Paper 14), we learned that the patent at issue, U.S. Patent 6,466,983 B1 ("the '983 patent"), was assigned by Steven P. Strazza to Plano Encryption Technologies. The assignment indicates that Mr. Strazza assigned all rights in the '983 patent to Plano Encryption Technologies. On the January 18, 2017 call, Mr. Strazza confirmed that he has no ownership interest in the '983 patent. *See* Paper 14, 2. Immediately prior to the call, we were informed by Mr. Bradley D. Liddle, of Plano Encryption Technologies, that there had been a subsequent assignment of the '983 patent from Plano Encryption Technologies to Cuica, LLC. *See id.*; Ex. 3001; Ex. 3002.<sup>2</sup>

Subsequent to the January 18, 2017 call, a Board representative contacted Dr. Ashitosh Swarup, who confirmed by email (filed herewith as Ex. 3003), that he is associated with the owner of record for the '983 patent, Cuica, LLC. He indicated that a representative of Cuica, LLC should be in touch with a Board representative. *See id.* To date, no representative from Cuica, LLC has contacted the Board.

In light of the fact that Mr. Strazza has no ownership interest in the '983 patent, he is a non-party to this proceeding, and we therefore expunge the Preliminary Response (Paper 12) and Mandatory Notice (Paper 13) filed by Mr. Strazza. We will proceed with the review of the Petition (Paper 2) without considering the Preliminary Response (Paper 12).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The assignment included in the record as Ex. 3002 has been assigned Assignment Number 504181762, recorded January 17, 2017, Reel 040995, Frame 0179.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Assignment Number 503296300, recorded May 7, 2015, Reel 035583, Frame 0938.

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Because Cuica, LLC is the current owner of record for the '983 patent, it is ordered to file a Mandatory Notice pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 42.08(a)(2) and § 42.08(b).

## **ORDER**

Accordingly, it is:

ORDERED that Papers 12 and 13 are *expunged*; and FURTHER ORDERED that Cuica, LLC shall file a Mandatory Notice.



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# For PATENT OWNER (by email and U.S. Mail):

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### **INVENTOR:**

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