The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO)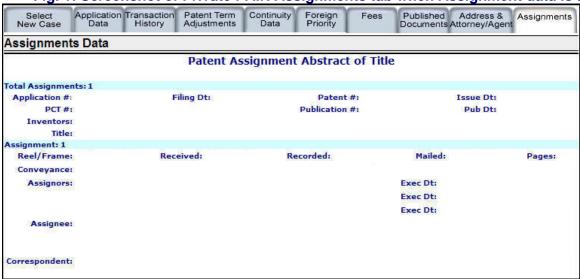 is making a change to the way Private PAIR retrieves Assignment information. This technical modification will result in a more-reliable system. Beginning on December 5, 2009, the Assignments tab will be displayed for all Private PAIR users. Previously, the tab was only displayed when Assignment data was available.

Information displayed in the Assignments tab will vary depending on whether there is Assignment data for the application. If there is Assignment data available, that information will be displayed (see Fig. 1).
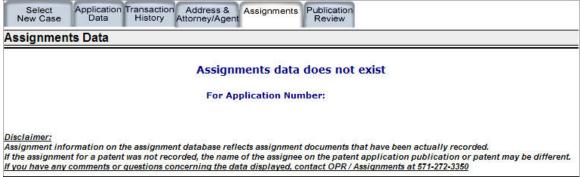
Fig. 1: Screenshot of Private PAIR Assignments tab when Assignment data is available.

Sample of Assignments Tab template: Patent Assignment information has been removed.

If there is no Assignment data available, the message "Assignment data does not exist" will be displayed (see Fig.2).

Fig. 2: Screenshot of Private PAIR Assignments tab when no Assignment data is available.

Note: If there is an error retrieving information from the Assignments database, the message "Assignments server is not available, try again later." will be displayed.

PAIR Support

Full technical support is available for PAIR through the Patent Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 from 6 a.m. to 12 Midnight Eastern Time, Monday – Friday, or via an e-mail sent to ebc@uspto.gov. For more information about Private PAIR, visit the PAIR home site at: http://www.uspto.gov/patents/process/status/index.jsp.