



US012389993B2

(12) **United States Patent**
Tran et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** US 12,389,993 B2
(45) **Date of Patent:** Aug. 19, 2025

(54) **WALLET WITH CARD HOLDING MECHANISMS**(71) Applicant: **CTB HOLDINGS LLC**, Portola Valley, CA (US)(72) Inventors: **Thuan Tran**, San Jose, CA (US); **Charlie Carroll**, Palo Alto, CA (US); **Binh Tran**, Santa Clara, CA (US)(73) Assignee: **CTB HOLDINGS LLC**, Portola Valley, CA (US)

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: **18/409,648**(22) Filed: **Jan. 10, 2024**(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2024/0156224 A1 May 16, 2024

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. 18/475,180, filed on Sep. 26, 2023, now Pat. No. 11,896,099, which is a (Continued)

(51) **Int. Cl.**
A45C 1/06 (2006.01)
A45C 13/30 (2006.01)(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC *A45C 1/06* (2013.01); *A45C 2001/065* (2013.01); *A45C 2001/067* (2013.01); *A45C 13/30* (2013.01)(58) **Field of Classification Search**
CPC *A45C 1/06; A45C 13/30; A45C 11/182; A45C 2001/065; A45C 2001/067*

(Continued)

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

1,415,276 A 5/1922 Edward
1,463,619 A * 7/1923 Gardner A63F 1/06
206/39.6

(Continued)

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

CA 2471793 6/2003
CN 305992507 8/2020

(Continued)

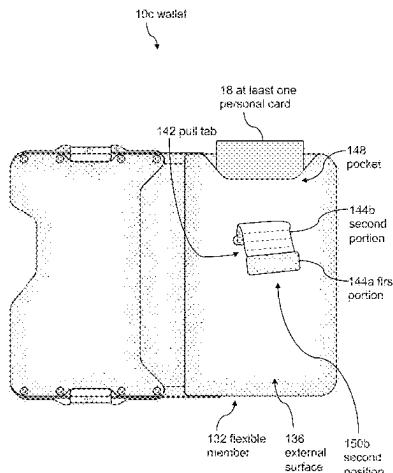
OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Dango Products—"Wallet Collections"—Available from Internet <URL: www.dangoproducts.com/collections/wallets>—Available at least as of Oct. 19, 2017—Retrieved from Internet Archive Wayback Machine <URL: <https://web.archive.org/web/20171019082039/www.dangoproducts.com/collections/wallets>> on Oct. 23, 2020.

(Continued)

Primary Examiner — Sue A Weaver(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Gallium Law; Jacob Panangat; Isabel Fox(57) **ABSTRACT**

The disclosure includes a wallet comprising an open-sided shell, a flexible member coupled to the open-sided shell, and a pull tab coupled to the external surface of the flexible member. The disclosure also includes a wallet comprising an open-sided shell, a flexible member coupled to the open-sided shell, a stretchable band configured to wrap around the open-sided shell and the flexible member, and a radio frequency identification (RFID) protection plate coupled to the open-sided shell. In some embodiments, the RFID protection plate is configured to securely couple at least one personal card between the RFID protection plate and the open-sided shell. The disclosure includes a wallet comprising an open-sided shell, a first protruding portion coupled to the open-sided shell, and a second protruding portion coupled to the open-sided shell.

20 Claims, 59 Drawing Sheets

Related U.S. Application Data

continuation of application No. 18/304,175, filed on Apr. 20, 2023, now Pat. No. 11,819,098, which is a continuation of application No. 17/716,875, filed on Apr. 8, 2022, now Pat. No. 11,653,729, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 17/470,825, filed on Sep. 9, 2021, now Pat. No. 11,337,498, which is a continuation of application No. 17/227,204, filed on Apr. 9, 2021, now Pat. No. 11,178,947, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 16/659,627, filed on Oct. 22, 2019, now Pat. No. 11,571,050, said application No. 17/716,875 is a continuation-in-part of application No. 16/659,627, filed on Oct. 22, 2019, now Pat. No. 11,571,050, application No. 18/409,648 is a continuation of application No. 18/478,962, filed on Sep. 29, 2023, now Pat. No. 11,903,466, which is a continuation of application No. 18/475,180, filed on Sep. 26, 2023, now Pat. No. 11,896,099, which is a continuation of application No. 18/304,175, filed on Apr. 20, 2023, now Pat. No. 11,819,098, which is a continuation of application No. 17/716,875, filed on Apr. 8, 2022, now Pat. No. 11,653,729, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 17/470,825, filed on Sep. 9, 2021, now Pat. No. 11,337,498, which is a continuation of application No. 17/227,204, filed on Apr. 9, 2021, now Pat. No. 11,178,947, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 16/659,627, filed on Oct. 22, 2019, now Pat. No. 11,571,050, said application No. 17/716,875 is a continuation-in-part of application No. 16/659,627, filed on Oct. 22, 2019, now Pat. No. 11,571,050.

(58) Field of Classification Search

USPC 150/147

See application file for complete search history.

(56)**References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

1,585,051 A	5/1926	Skoglund	D398,446 S	9/1998	Hosea
1,670,343 A	5/1928	Clemens	D404,567 S	1/1999	Akutsu
1,832,625 A	11/1931	Gardner	5,901,764 A	5/1999	Ritter
1,908,115 A	5/1933	Chadwick	D411,766 S	7/1999	Elkington
2,288,704 A	7/1942	Herbener	5,929,427 A	7/1999	Harada
2,511,533 A	6/1950	Sinsey	5,938,010 A	8/1999	Osterbye
D187,240 S	2/1960	Harkins	5,944,080 A	8/1999	Podwika
3,461,469 A	8/1969	Morrision	D416,581 S	11/1999	Cheng
D256,852 S	9/1980	McGahee	6,009,584 A	1/2000	Padden
4,305,497 A	12/1981	Pacilio	6,044,967 A	4/2000	Painsith
D266,479 S	10/1982	Hayakawa	6,076,665 A	6/2000	Chuang
D283,844 S	5/1986	Saad	6,089,289 A	7/2000	Florjancic
4,691,456 A	9/1987	Ackeret	D431,105 S	9/2000	Ling
4,705,086 A	11/1987	O'Neill	D431,719 S	10/2000	Mucarquer
4,763,821 A	8/1988	Powell	6,145,994 A	11/2000	Ng
4,774,779 A	10/1988	Ackeret	D434,624 S	12/2000	Padden
4,932,520 A	6/1990	Ciarcia	D444,060 S	6/2001	Elsener
D314,865 S	2/1991	Tuisku	6,276,414 B1	8/2001	Bibb
5,038,926 A	8/1991	Van Der Toorn	D447,438 S	9/2001	DiLibero
D322,039 S	12/1991	Chien	6,347,875 B1	2/2002	Painsith
5,077,869 A	1/1992	Haase	D454,087 S	3/2002	Braner
D337,656 S	7/1993	Hostert	D462,000 S	8/2002	Hightower
5,234,351 A	8/1993	Dixon	6,427,837 B1	8/2002	Shields
5,279,019 A	1/1994	Knickle	6,460,698 B1	10/2002	Wang
5,328,026 A	7/1994	Newman	6,823,910 B1	11/2004	Elnekaveh
D360,815 S	8/1995	Padden	6,851,147 B2	2/2005	Abrahall
D366,146 S	1/1996	Bertrand	D517,390 S	3/2006	Cheng
D374,388 S	10/1996	Padden	D525,162 S	7/2006	Suman
5,573,164 A	11/1996	Law	7,334,616 B2	2/2008	Kaminski
5,592,767 A	1/1997	Treske	D575,506 S	8/2008	Huang
D384,499 S	10/1997	Gaestel	D581,311 S	11/2008	Cornett
5,740,624 A	4/1998	Baseley	D591,044 S	4/2009	Lakhiani
			7,546,860 B1	6/2009	Mehdizadeh
			7,556,073 B2 *	7/2009	Lyons
					A45C 1/06
					150/147
			7,568,250 B2	8/2009	Menard-Flanagan
			7,604,028 B2	10/2009	Bridgefarmer
			7,617,928 B1	11/2009	Murphy
			D632,695 S	2/2011	Berntsen
			7,918,335 B1 *	4/2011	Kitchen
					A45C 11/18
					150/132
			7,921,890 B2	4/2011	Ho
			7,928,335 B2	4/2011	Kitchen
			D637,648 S	5/2011	Ringl
			7,971,324 B2	7/2011	Preston-Hall
			8,047,363 B2	11/2011	Sheba
			8,251,210 B2	8/2012	Schmidt
			D677,193 S	3/2013	Macdonald
			D685,990 S	7/2013	Zhang
			D690,931 S	10/2013	Minn
			8,567,459 B2	10/2013	Kitchen
			8,567,460 B1	10/2013	Lentsch
			D695,013 S	12/2013	Minn
			D701,043 S	3/2014	Minn
			8,726,952 B2	5/2014	Jambunathan
			D706,271 S	6/2014	Gelsomini
			D707,091 S	6/2014	Barr
			8,763,795 B1	7/2014	Oten
			8,776,846 B1	7/2014	Thompson
			D710,741 S	8/2014	Hirschorn
			D716,043 S	10/2014	Wilk
			8,863,793 B2	10/2014	Black
			D717,197 S	11/2014	Kinskey
			D718,525 S	12/2014	Kim
			D719,350 S	12/2014	Daoura
			8,899,411 B2	12/2014	Van Geer
			D737,169 S	8/2015	Hirschorn
			9,125,464 B2	9/2015	Minn
			9,125,465 B2	9/2015	Beckley
			D743,760 S	11/2015	Barr
			D745,274 S	12/2015	Minn
			D750,888 S	3/2016	Johnson
			D751,877 S	3/2016	Shlaferman
			D755,764 S	5/2016	Dong
			9,339,094 B2 *	5/2016	Tucker-Skow
			D765,487 S	9/2016	A45C 11/182
			D768,382 S	10/2016	Wu
			D768,383 S	10/2016	Wu
			D770,775 S	11/2016	Robertson

US 12,389,993 B2

Page 3

(56)	References Cited						
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
D772,678 S	11/2016	Haarburger	D895,963 S	9/2020	Anderson		
D775,824 S	1/2017	King	D896,506 S	9/2020	Anderson		
D780,449 S	3/2017	King	10,791,808 B2	10/2020	Kane		
9,615,641 B2	4/2017	Yeung	D904,016 S	12/2020	Jacobsen		
9,648,931 B2	5/2017	Sha	D904,143 S	12/2020	Hollinger		
9,661,908 B2	5/2017	Mayer	D908,351 S	1/2021	Hoffman		
D792,749 S	7/2017	Faro	D908,352 S	1/2021	Pirker		
D798,591 S	10/2017	King	D909,059 S	2/2021	Leh		
D799,301 S	10/2017	Cetera	D915,066 S	4/2021	Blackrock		
9,775,328 B1	10/2017	Fidrych	D915,765 S	4/2021	Quittner		
9,815,212 B2	11/2017	Barr	D917,879 S	5/2021	Chui		
D805,770 S	12/2017	Justiss	D918,002 S	5/2021	Borenstein		
D805,873 S	12/2017	Cetera	D930,634 S	9/2021	Azodi		
D806,386 S	1/2018	King	D930,981 S	9/2021	Ghazzaoui		
D808,158 S	1/2018	King	D932,182 S	10/2021	Foy		
D808,765 S	1/2018	Kisling	D933,360 S	10/2021	Qing		
D809,792 S	2/2018	Moon	D934,560 S	11/2021	Tran		
9,907,375 B1 *	3/2018	Kitchen	A45C 1/06	11,178,947 B2	11/2021	Tran	
D814,182 S	4/2018	Haarburger	D934,689 B1	3/2022	Duncan		
D814,183 S	4/2018	Haarburger	D931,087 B2	4/2022	Del Moral		
D815,932 S	4/2018	Lee	D950,240 S	5/2022	Tran		
D815,935 S	4/2018	Barak	D950,241 S	5/2022	Tran		
D817,196 S	5/2018	Haarburger	D951,632 S	5/2022	Tran		
D817,316 S	5/2018	Srour	11,337,498 B2	5/2022	Tran		
D817,804 S	5/2018	Antinone	11,425,976 B1	8/2022	Tran		
D818,708 S	5/2018	An	D964,735 S	9/2022	Zeng		
D827,408 S	9/2018	Stefanczyk-Lacor	11,439,214 B2	9/2022	Tran		
D828,023 S	9/2018	Serman	D967,626 S	10/2022	Tran		
D828,024 S	9/2018	Serman	11,457,704 B2	10/2022	Hoffman		
D828,025 S	9/2018	Serman	D972,841 S	12/2022	Tran		
10,080,409 B2	9/2018	King	11,653,729 B2	5/2023	Tran		
D831,349 S	10/2018	Deng	11,737,531 B2	8/2023	Tran		
10,123,596 B2	11/2018	King	11,786,018 B2	10/2023	Tran		
D835,408 S	12/2018	Justiss	11,819,098 B2	11/2023	Tran		
D835,409 S	12/2018	Justiss	11,896,099 B2	2/2024	Tran		
D835,410 S	12/2018	Chan	11,903,466 B2	2/2024	Tran		
D836,335 S	12/2018	Serman	2002/0179463 A1	12/2002	Newman		
D836,336 S	12/2018	Serman	2004/0083552 A1	5/2004	Abrahall		
D836,914 S	1/2019	Reinhart	2004/0148837 A1	8/2004	Lewis		
10,201,216 B2	2/2019	Van Geer	2005/0035006 A1	2/2005	Dohner		
10,206,473 B2	2/2019	Haarburger	2007/0109130 A1	5/2007	Edenfield		
D842,070 S	3/2019	Kisling	2008/0314483 A1	12/2008	Armstrong		
D845,623 S	4/2019	Sullivan	2009/0199940 A1	8/2009	Toner		
D856,956 S	8/2019	Liu	2010/0078101 A1	4/2010	Styron		
10,368,618 B2	8/2019	Richards	2011/0308972 A1	12/2011	Streem		
D858,984 S	9/2019	Zucco	2012/0067747 A1 *	3/2012	Van Geer	A45C 11/182	
D860,645 S	9/2019	Wu				206/39	
D861,339 S	10/2019	Moon	2012/0228168 A1 *	9/2012	Kitchen	A45C 11/182	
D866,177 S	11/2019	Leh				206/307	
D866,178 S	11/2019	Jin	2013/0056119 A1	3/2013	Henriette		
D866,276 S	11/2019	Shlaferman	2013/0135103 A1	5/2013	Holloway		
D866,964 S	11/2019	Tran	2013/0276943 A1	10/2013	Minn		
D868,463 S	12/2019	Tran	2014/0143958 A1	5/2014	Barr		
D869,843 S	12/2019	Zhou	2015/0059937 A1	3/2015	Singer		
10,512,316 B2	12/2019	Haarburger	2015/0083289 A1	3/2015	Johnson		
D875,490 S	2/2020	Barr	2015/0240524 A1	8/2015	Olroyd		
D877,513 S	3/2020	Duncan	2015/0257499 A1	9/2015	Muir		
D877,594 S	3/2020	Liang	2015/0282579 A1	10/2015	Piro		
D878,891 S	3/2020	Polczynski	2015/0335118 A1 *	11/2015	Van Geer	A45C 11/182	
D878,893 S	3/2020	Kao				150/147	
D879,580 S	3/2020	Spater	2016/0022000 A1	5/2016	Tucker-Skow		
10,595,611 B2	3/2020	Berkley	2016/0206065 A1	7/2016	Ehrlich		
D881,671 S	4/2020	Kao	2016/0324283 A1	11/2016	Kane		
D884,338 S	5/2020	Liu	2016/0374443 A1	12/2016	Kim		
D884,339 S	5/2020	Li	2017/0035169 A1	2/2017	Haarburger		
D884,792 S	5/2020	Swallow	2017/0055654 A1	3/2017	King		
10,653,222 B2 *	5/2020	Scharnigg	B65D 83/08	2017/0119115 A1	5/2017	King	
D887,708 S	6/2020	Tran	2017/0202324 A1 *	7/2017	Van Geer	A45C 1/06	
D887,709 S	6/2020	Fenton	2017/0224077 A1	8/2017	Mayer		
D889,525 S	7/2020	Leh	2017/0265610 A1	9/2017	Smith		
D891,101 S	7/2020	Lv	2018/0027935 A1	2/2018	Laatz		
D891,767 S	8/2020	Lamb	2018/0064223 A1	3/2018	Singer		
D893,975 S	8/2020	Tran	2018/0311804 A1	11/2018	Weinberger		
D895,276 S	9/2020	Leh	2018/0325228 A1	11/2018	Leimer		
D895,961 S	9/2020	Swan	2018/0332936 A1 *	11/2018	Serman	A45C 11/182	
			2018/0368547 A1	12/2018	Grannan		
			2019/0008253 A1	1/2019	Deng		
			2019/0269213 A1	9/2019	Deng		

(56)

References Cited**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

2019/0318667 A1	10/2019	Freeman
2019/0365066 A1	12/2019	Hill
2020/0077758 A1	3/2020	Hoffman
2020/0178657 A1 *	6/2020	Van Geer
2020/0229557 A1	7/2020	Tran
2020/0305564 A1	10/2020	Myers
2020/0315308 A1 *	10/2020	Van Geer
2020/0379509 A1	12/2020	Coward
2021/0112935 A1	4/2021	Tran
2021/0330045 A1	10/2021	Tran
2021/0337945 A1	11/2021	Popoff
2022/0225742 A1	7/2022	Tran
2023/0096354 A1	3/2023	Duncan
2023/0248127 A1	8/2023	Tran
2023/0337793 A1	10/2023	Tran
2024/0008609 A1	1/2024	Tran
2024/0016269 A1	1/2024	Tran
2024/0023682 A1	1/2024	Tran
2024/0041176 A1	2/2024	Tran

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

CN	306924723	11/2021
KR	101356236	1/2014
KR	20140003803	6/2014
WO	2006021042	3/2006

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Onward Innovation—"RFID Carbon Fiber Cash Strap Wallet"—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.onwardinnovation.com/products/rfid-carbon-fiber-cash-strap-wallet>>.

Ridge—"Aluminum—Black"—Downloaded Apr. 9, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://ridge.com/products/aluminum-black?>>.

Titan X—"Titan X | Pro Edition"—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://titanxwallet.com/products/edition>>.

Alpine Swiss—"Alpine Swiss Genuine Leather Super Thing Slim Cash Strap Front Pocket Wallet"—Downloaded Apr. 9, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.alpineswiss.com/alpine-swiss-genuine-leather-super-thin-slim-cash-strap-front-pocket-wallet?>>.

Simple Zone—"Carbon Fiber Wallet for Men, Simple Zone RFID Blocking Slim Minimalist Card Holder Wallet with Money Clip and Cash Strap"—First available Jun. 18, 2020—Downloaded Apr. 9, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/Carbon-Simple-Zone-Blocking-Minimalist/dp/B08BG4G8GJ>>.

Dango Products—"T01 Tactical Bifold Wallet—Spec-Ops—Blueline"—Downloaded Apr. 9, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.dangoproducts.com/products/t01-tactical-bifold-wallet-blueline-spec-ops?variant=21433891881044>>.

Dango Products—"Dango M1 Maverick Wallet—CNC—Machined Aluminum, RFID Blocking, Made in USA"—First available Jan. 12, 2019—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07MMDRGCV>>.

Dango Products—"Dango Products—M1 Maverick Bifold Wallet"—Video by user Dango Products—First available Nov. 29, 2018—Downloaded May 24, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kqF_xCWLOU>.

Muradin—"Muradin Dapper Leather Bifold Wallet—Genuine Tactical Wallet—Card Wallet for Men—RFID-Blocking Aluminum Metal Wallet"—First available Nov. 22, 2020—Downloaded May 24, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/MURADIN-Dapper-Leather-Bifold-Wallet/dp/B07ZPXH81N?th=1>>.

Dango Products—"A10 Adapt Wallet"—Downloaded May 25, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.dangoproducts.com/collections/a-series-wallets/products/a10-adapt-wallet>>.

Hanker—"Carbon Fiber Aluminum Metal Minimalist Wallet RFID Blocking Credit Card Holder Money Clip"—First available Feb. 7, 2019—Downloaded May 25, 2019—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/Carbon-Aluminum-Minimalist-Wallet-Blocking/dp/B07NHK6P55>>.

EELV—"ELV Badge Holder Wallet, Aluminium ID Badge Card Holder Heavy Duty with Quick Release Button, Metal Clip for Offices ID, School ID, Driver Licence, Wallet, Holds 1-4 Cards"—First available Jan. 21, 2019—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/ELV-Aluminum-Release-Offices-License/dp/B07MZJYVBX>>.

Elephant Wallet—"N Wallet Carbon Fiber—Fabric Rubber"—Downloaded Mar. 17, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://elephantwallet.com/products/n-wallet-carbon-fiber>>.

Elephant Wallet—"How Does It Work (X Wallet)"—Downloaded Mar. 17, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://elephantwallet.com/pages/how-does-it-work>>.

Wallet Gear—"Bifold Leather Wallet with Elastic Band"—Downloaded Mar. 17, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.walletgear.com/bifold-leather-wallet-with-elastic-band.html>>.

Curated Basics—"Elastic Band Minimalist Wallet"—Downloaded Mar. 17, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.curatedbasics.com/products/elastic-band>>.

Dango Products—"Dango D03 Dapper Bifold EDC Wallet—Made in USA—Genuine Leather, Slim, Minimalist, Metal, RFID Blocking"—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available at least as of Apr. 22, 2021 (first review)—Available from Internet <URL: https://www.amazon.com/Dango-D03-Dapper-Bifold-Wallet/dp/B0925CV8CK?ref_=ast_sto_dp&th=1>.

Dango Products—"D03 Dapper Bifold Wallet"—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.dangoproducts.com/products/d03-dapper-wallet>>.

Dango Products—"Dango Products: D03 Dapper Bifold Wallet"—Video by user Dango Products—First available Apr. 20, 2021—Downloaded Nov. 24, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QSLs3ABQcoY>>.

Dango Products—"A10 Bifold Pen Adapter"—Video by user Dango Products—First available Jul. 15, 2020—Downloaded Nov. 24, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7y6fXT8YOSI>>.

Dango Products—"A10 Adapt Bifold Pen Wallet"—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.dangoproducts.com/products/a10-adapt-bifold-pen-wallet>>.

Dango Products—"Dango M1 Maverick Rail EDC Wallet—Made in USA—All-Metal, Minimalist, Slim, RFID Blocking"—First Available Oct. 9, 2019—Downloaded Nov. 24, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/Dango-M1-Maverick-Rail-Wallet/dp/B07YWK9Z>>.

Dango Products—"Dango M1 Maverick Rail Wallet"—First Available Oct. 7, 2019—Downloaded Nov. 24, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5xTPdgAZKL8>>.

Dango Products—"M1 Maverick Rail Wallet"—Downloaded Nov. 24, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.dangoproducts.com/products/m1-maverick-rail-wallet>>.

Anvi Original—"Minicap 1.0/2.0 Mens RFID Blocking Front Pocket Minimalist Slim Wallet With Pull Tab Money Clip"—First available Sep. 14, 2018—Downloaded Nov. 11, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/Minicap1-0-Blocking-Pocket-Minimalist-Wallet/dp/B07HCD1BRR>>.

Leatheram—"Handmade pull up card holder, leather credit card case with pull tab, minimalist wallet, thin minimal wallet"—Available at least as of Dec. 14, 2019—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.etsy.com/listing/235786494>>.

Enigma—"MURADIN Chocolate Front Pocket Wallet for Men Travel Tactical bifold RFID Blocking Aluminum Metal Leather Money Cards Holder Ideal Men's Gift"—Available at least as of Jul. 6, 2021—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/MURADIN-Chocolate-Tactical-Blocking-Aluminum/dp/B097SKPGJP>>.

Nite Ize—"Nite Ize Financial Tool, Multi Tool Money Clip, Minimalist Wallet, Money Clip, Multi Tool, and Credit Card Holder

(56)

References Cited**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

- Combo, Stainless Steel"—First available Mar. 1, 2018—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B078KZSGKR>>.
- Safe Price—"Stainless Steel Men Money Clip Elastic Band Slim Credit Card Holder Wallet Purse (Silver)"—First available Sep. 20, 2017—Downloaded Jul. 29, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/Stainless-Elastic-Credit-Holder-Wallet/dp/B075S95PQ7?th=1>>.
- Micrometalinc—"Titanium Money Clip | Bottle Opener | CNC: 65MC4375F2 | 1x Money Clip"—Available at least as of May 13, 2020—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.etsy.com/listing/974788562>>.
- TI-EDC—"TI-EDC Titanium Slim Cash Money Clip Wallet Credit Card Holder and Bottle Opener"—First Available Dec. 10, 2013—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.amazon.com/TI-EDC-Titanium-Wallet-Credit-Holder/dp/B00H7UHZZY>>.
- Cheers All—"Beer Opener Money Clip"—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://cheersall.com/products/beer-opener-money-clip>>.
- Nomatic—Wallet—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.nomatic.com/products/wallet>>.
- Distil—Wally Bifold Classic—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://distilunion.com/products/wally-bifold>>.
- ENIGMA—ENIGMA Dapper PU Leather Bifold Front Pocket Slim Wallet for Men, Aluminum Metal Travel Tactical RFID Blocking Card Holder Money Clip, Ideal Men's Gift—Available at least as of Jul. 13, 2021—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from Internet <<https://www.amazon.com/ENIGMA-Leather-Aluminum-Tactical-Blocking/dp/B097RCJJVJ>>.
- Dango Products—"Dango Products—M1 Maverick Bifold Wallet Spec-Ops Edition"—First Available Nov. 29, 2018—Downloaded Nov. 23, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KSFzWMDOTAC>>.
- Dango Products—"Dango Products—MT01 Clasp Multi-Tool"—First Available Mar. 19, 2019—Downloaded Nov. 23, 2021—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7SVGTLoDUsE>>.
- Dango Products—"A10 Adapt Wallet"—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from internet <URL: <https://www.dangoproducts.com/collections/a-series-wallets/products/a10-adapt-wallet>>.
- Dango Products—"Dango Products—A10 Adapt Wallet"—First available: Jul. 15, 2020—Downloaded Jun. 11, 2022—Available from internet <URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EheKLMq84-8>>.
- Dango Products—"M1 Maverick Wallet"—Downloaded Sep. 8, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.dangoproducts.com/collections/m1-maverick-wallets/products/m1-maverick-tactical-bifold-wallet-raw>>.
- Dango Products—"D01 Dapper Wallet"—Downloaded Sep. 8, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.dangoproducts.com/products/d01-dapper-wallet>>.
- Dango Products—"Dango Products—A10 Pull Pocket Adapter"—Video by user Dango Products—First available Feb. 17, 2021—Downloaded Sep. 30, 2022—Available from Internet <URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DTIdZDIBk2I>>.
- Dango Products—"Dango Products—T01 Tactical and D01 Dapper Wallet | Overview and Instructions" Video by user Dango Products—Available from Internet: <URL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sj60qwXjZAA>> (Year: 2016).
- Dango Products—"Dango Products | Redefining the Wallet"—Kickstarter © campaign—Available from Internet: <URL: <https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1592811030/dango-products-redefining-the-wallet-description>> (Year: 2016).
- SEMORID—"SEMORID Leather Skin Rfid Credit Card Holder Metal Men Wallets 2021 Badge Cardholder Aviator Minimalist Wallet for Card"—Downloaded Jan. 10, 2023—Available from Internet: <URL:<https://www.aliexpress.us/item/3256801654742032.html>>.
- Fashion Wallet—"2022 Genuine Leather Metal Rfid Credit Card Holders Anti-Theft Bifold Money Bag Business Badge Minimalist Men Wallet"—Downloaded Jan. 10, 2023—Available from Internet: <URL: <https://www.aliexpress.us/item/3256804138918235.html>>.
- MC01 Titanium Money Clip, first available Dec. 5, 2022, dangoproducts.com, [online], [site visited Aug. 11, 2023]. Available from the internet URL: <https://dangoproducts.com/collections/all/products/mc01-titanium-money-clip> (Year: 2021).

* cited by examiner

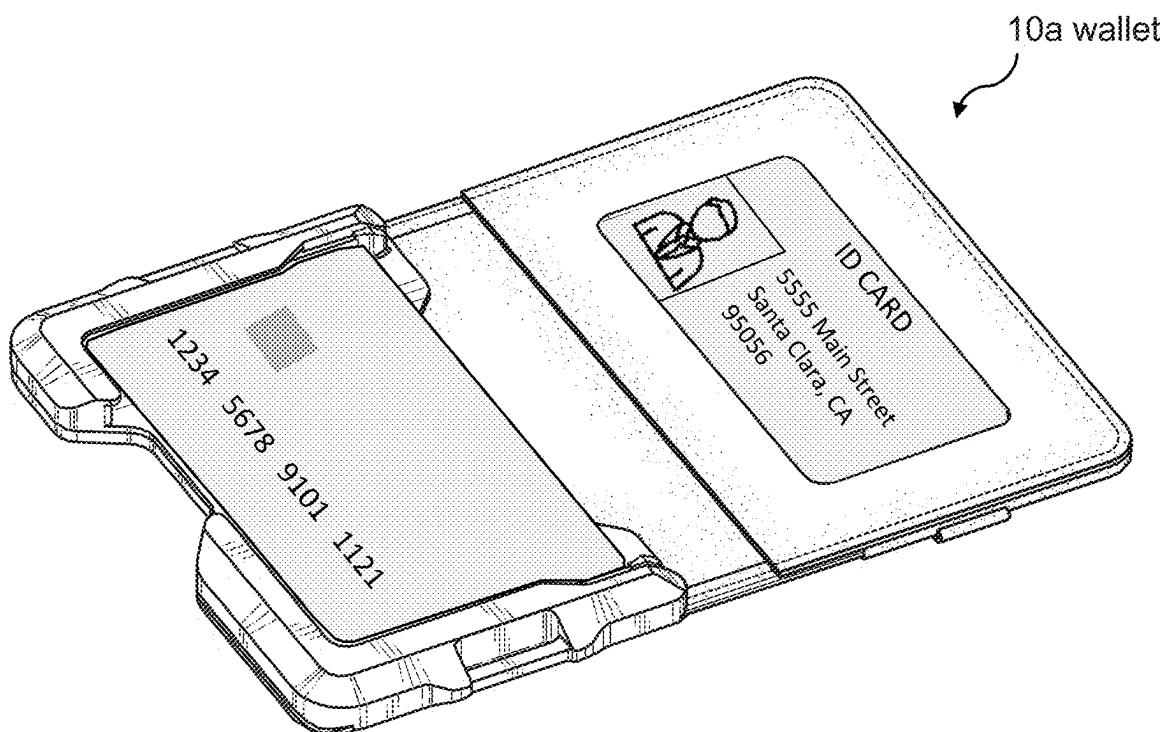


FIG. 1A

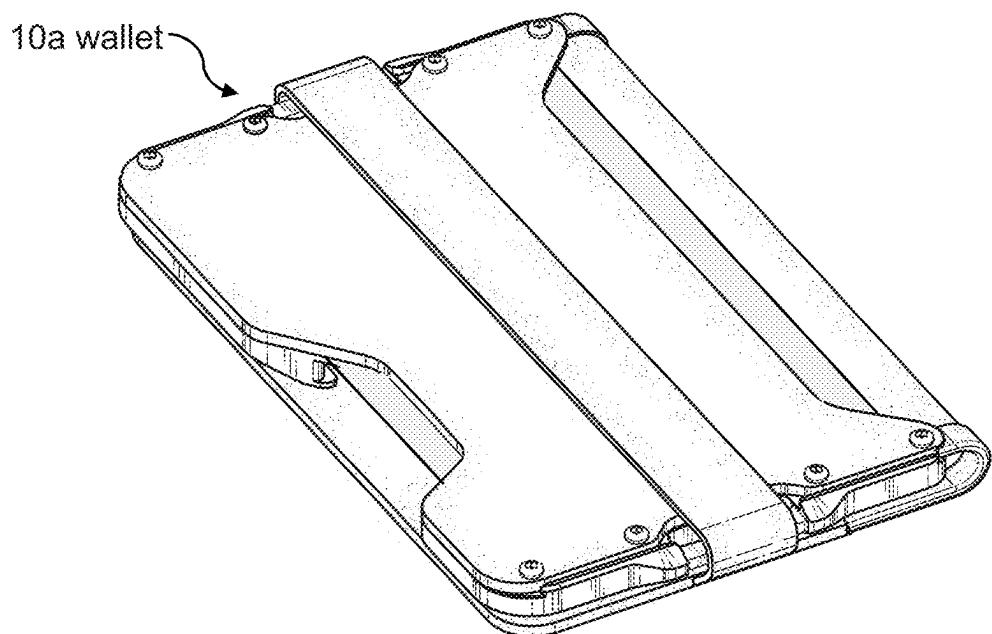
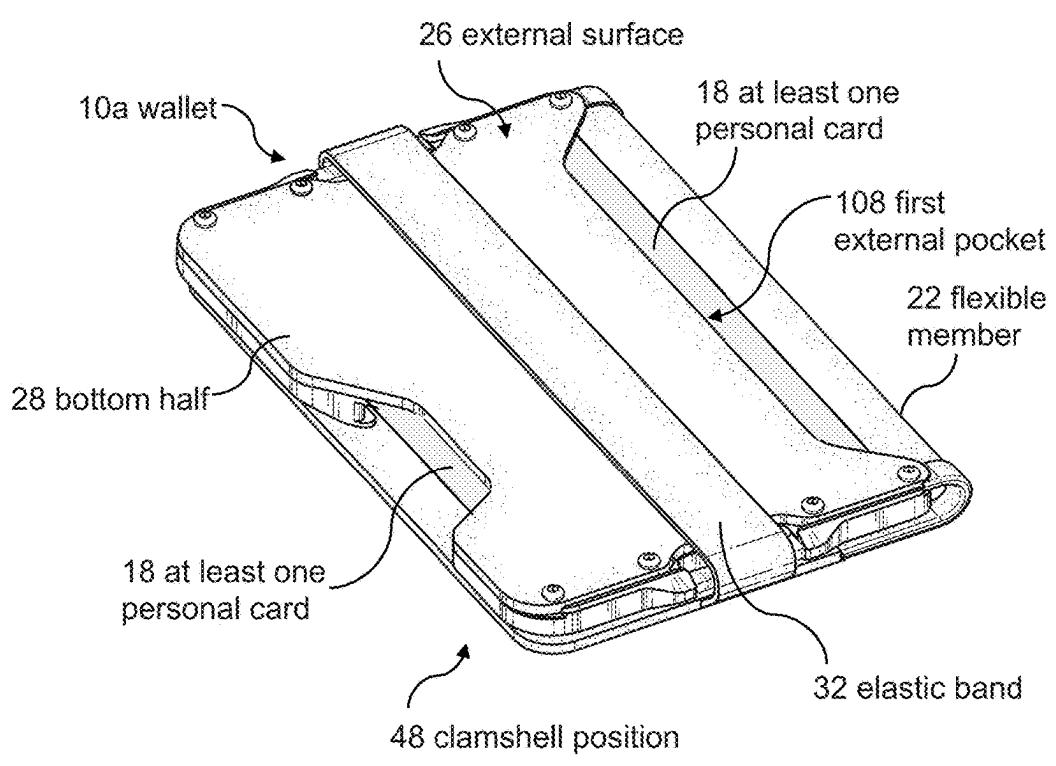
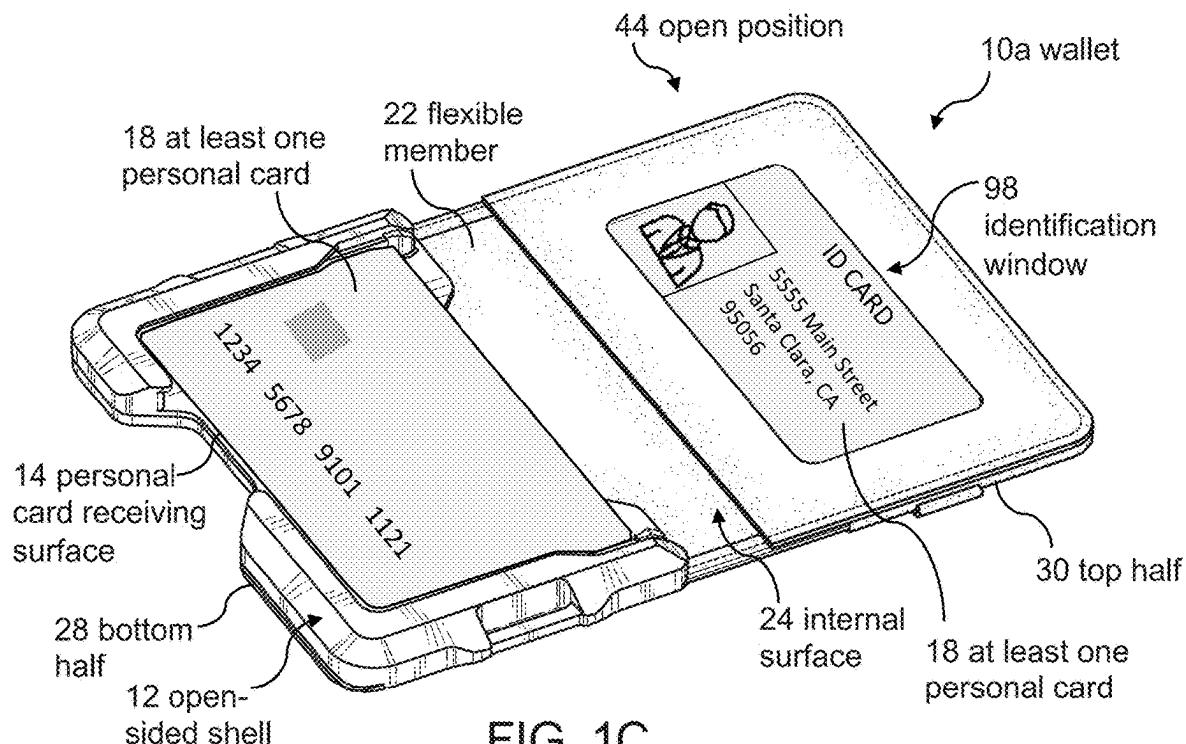


FIG. 1B



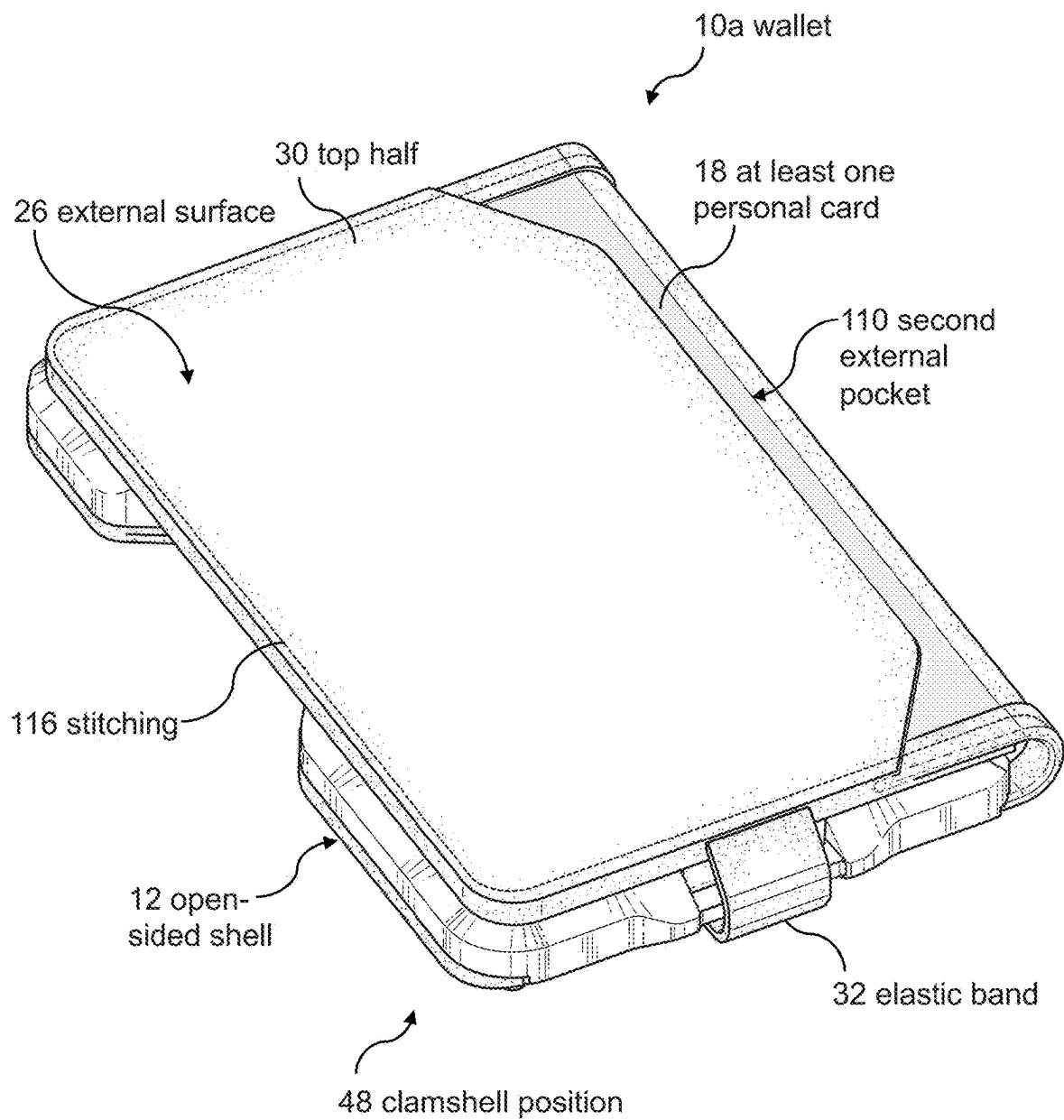


FIG. 2

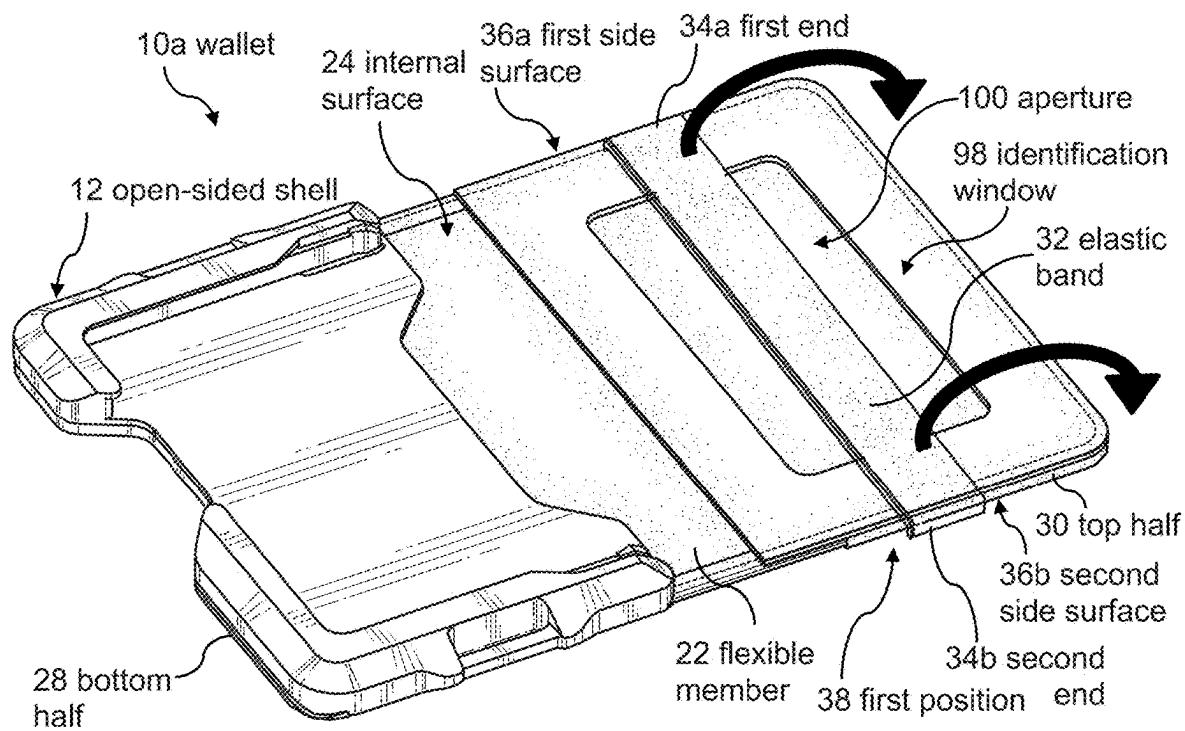


FIG. 3

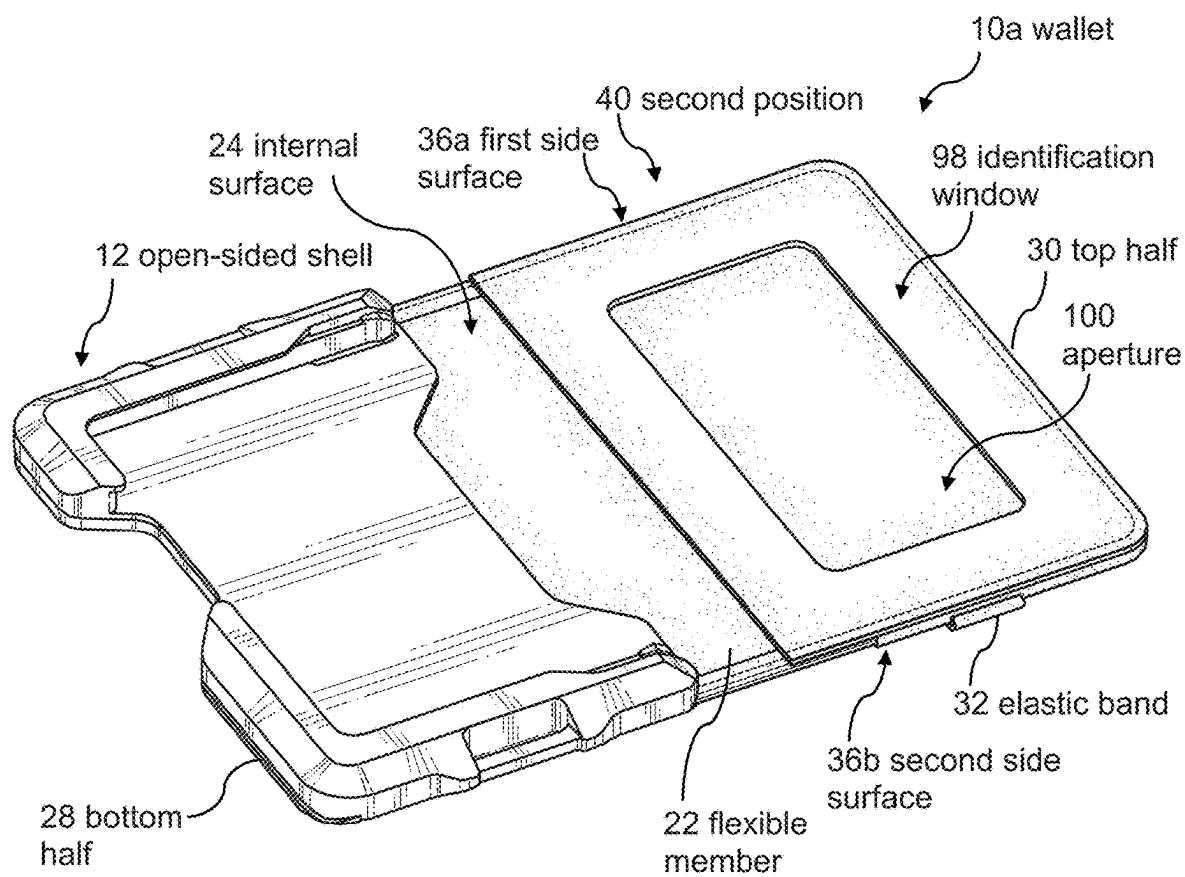


FIG. 4

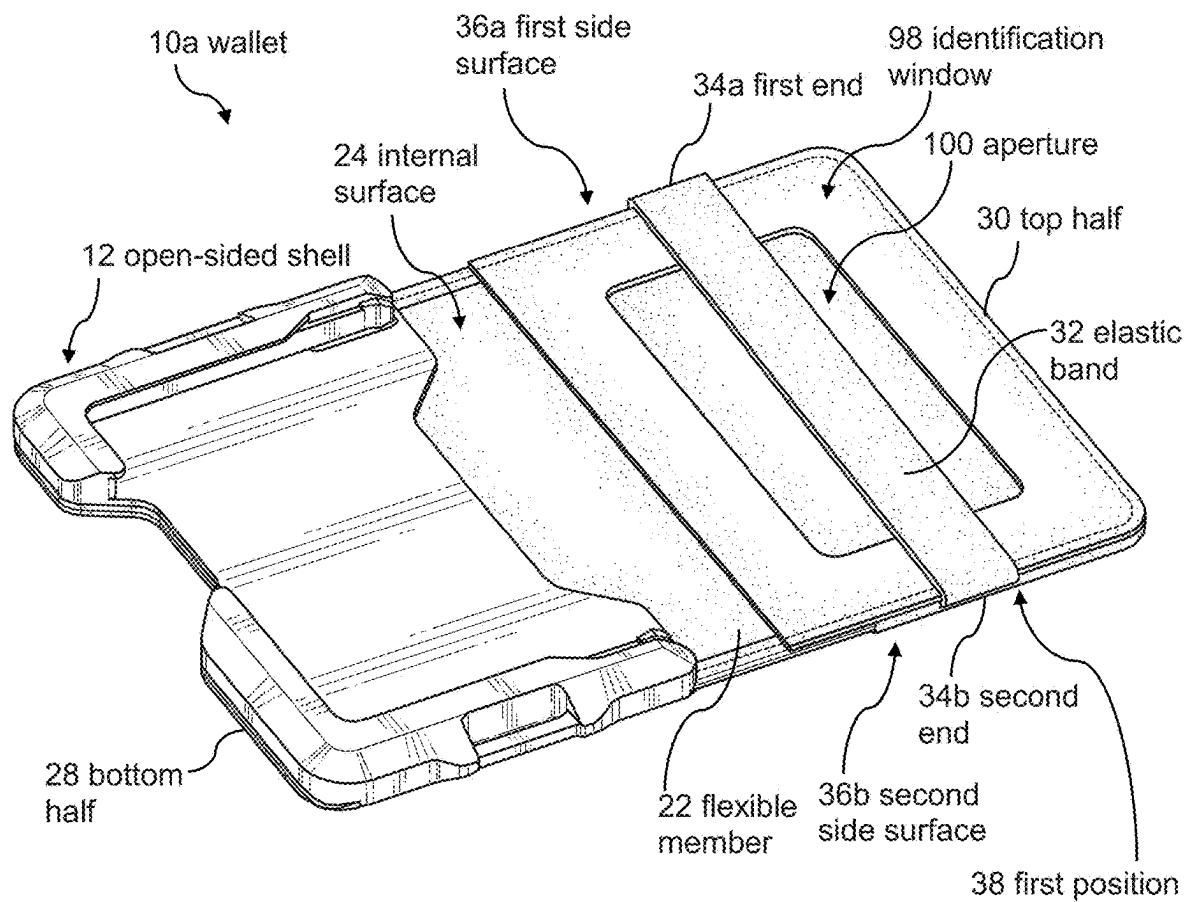


FIG. 5

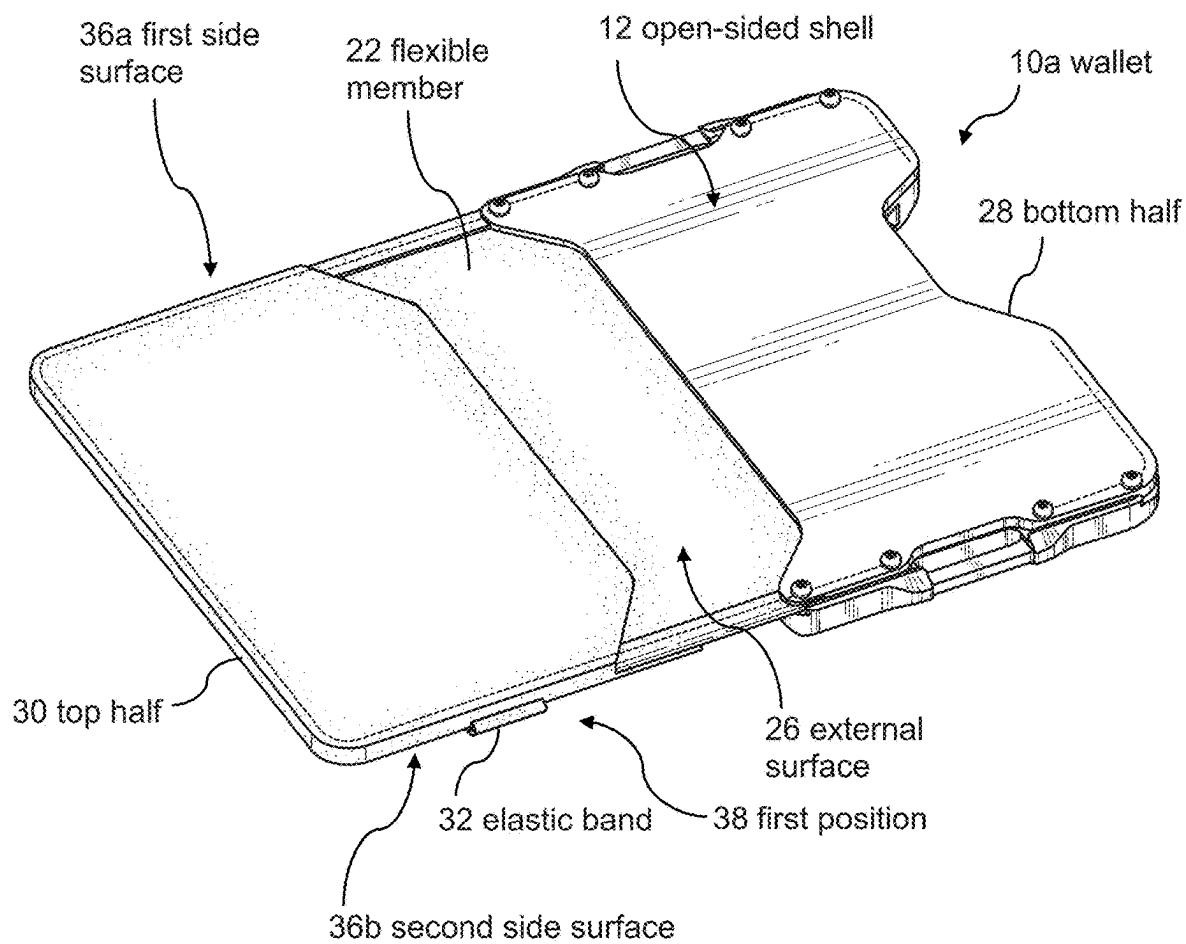


FIG. 6

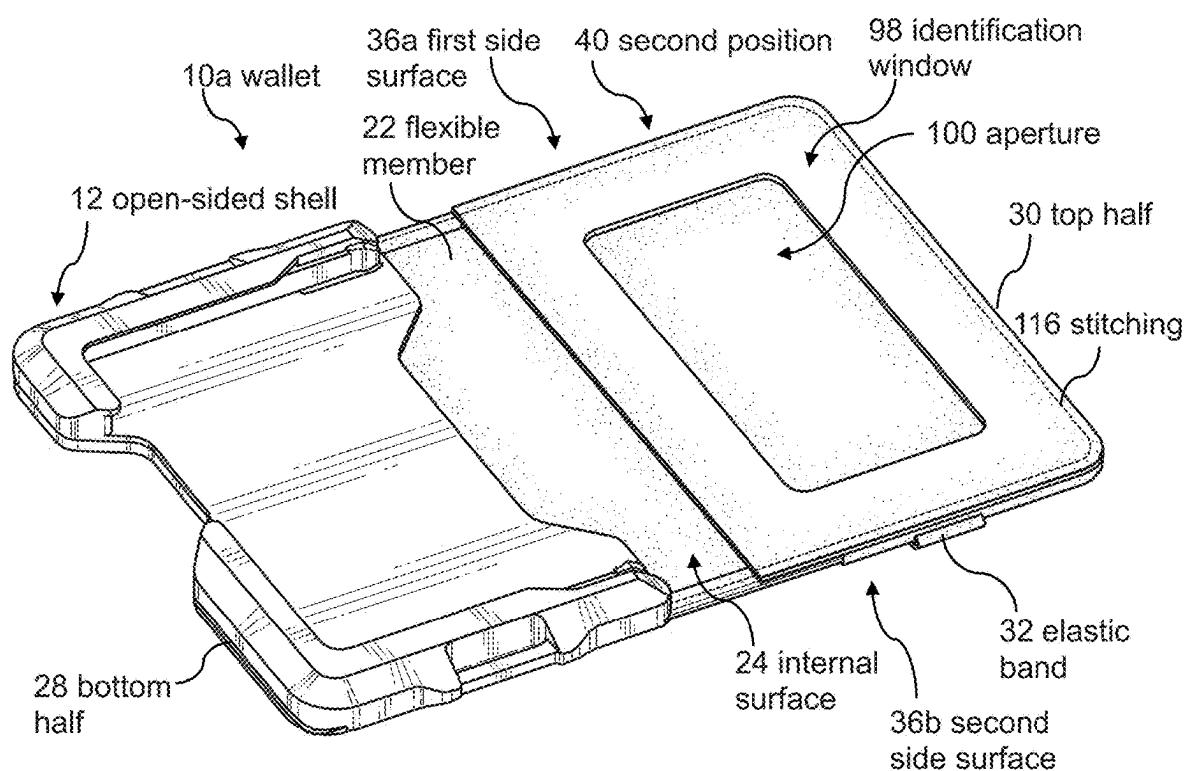


FIG. 7

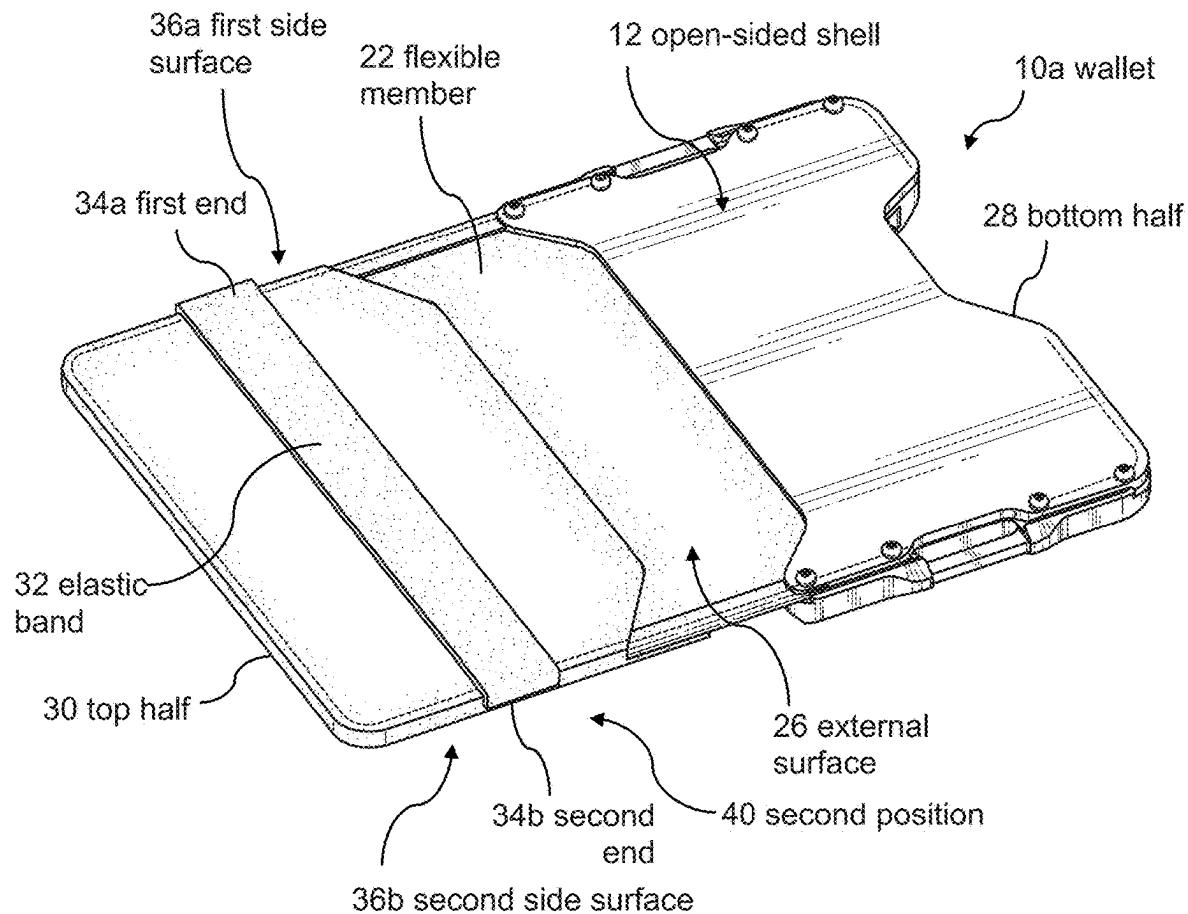


FIG. 8

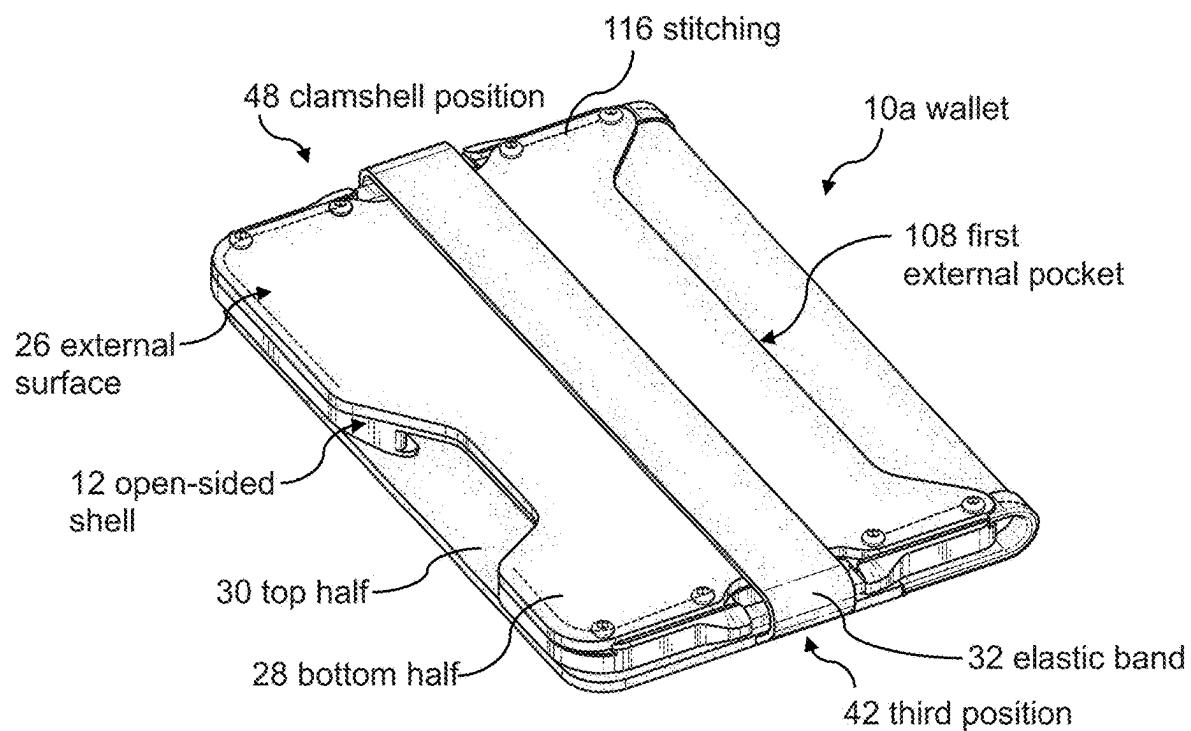


FIG. 9

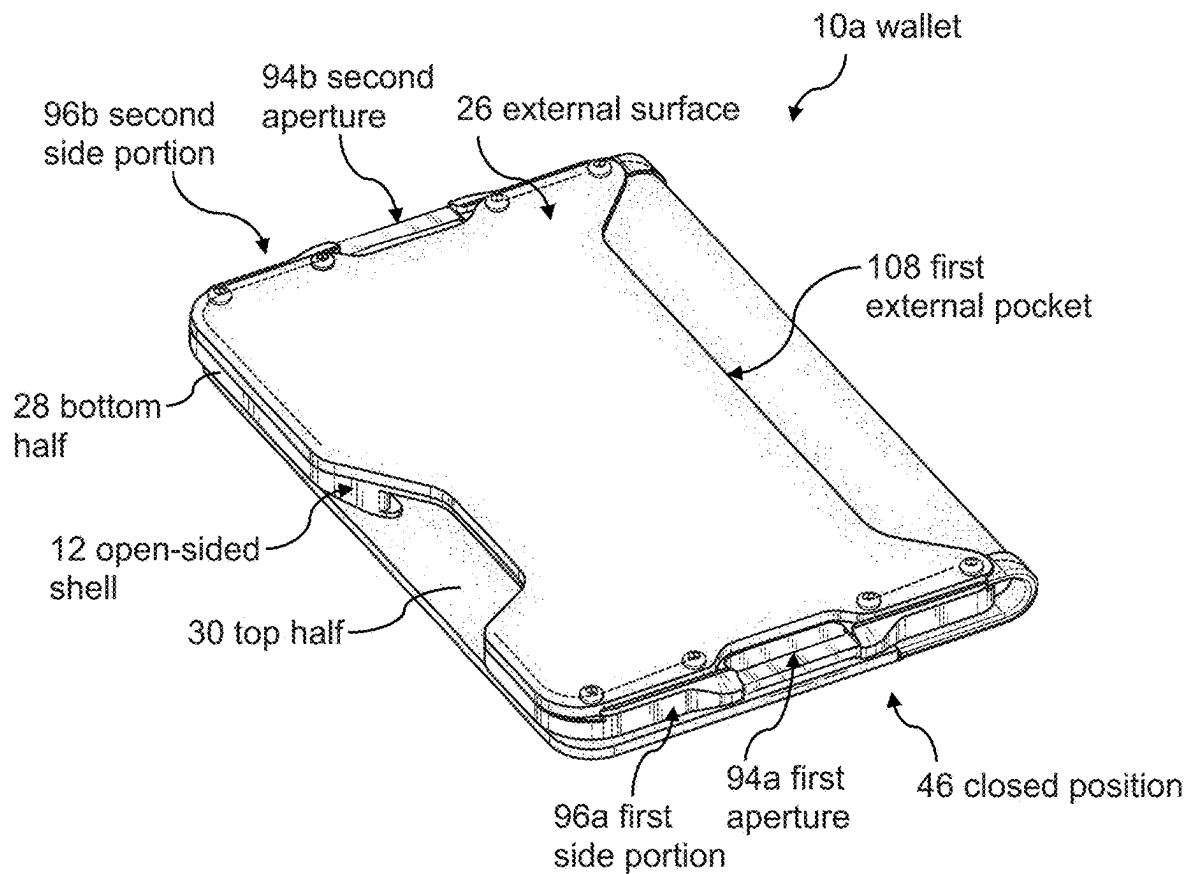


FIG. 10

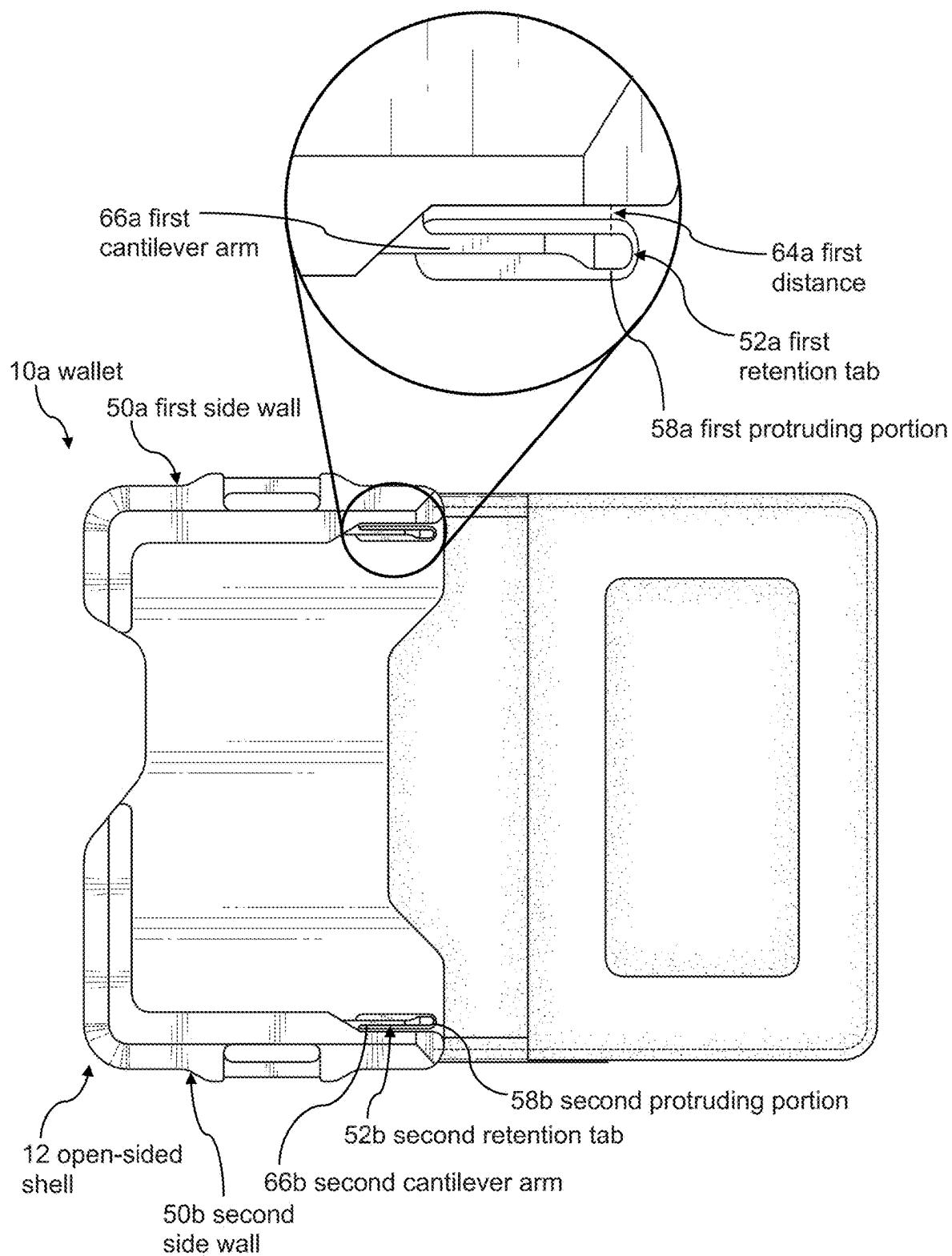


FIG. 11

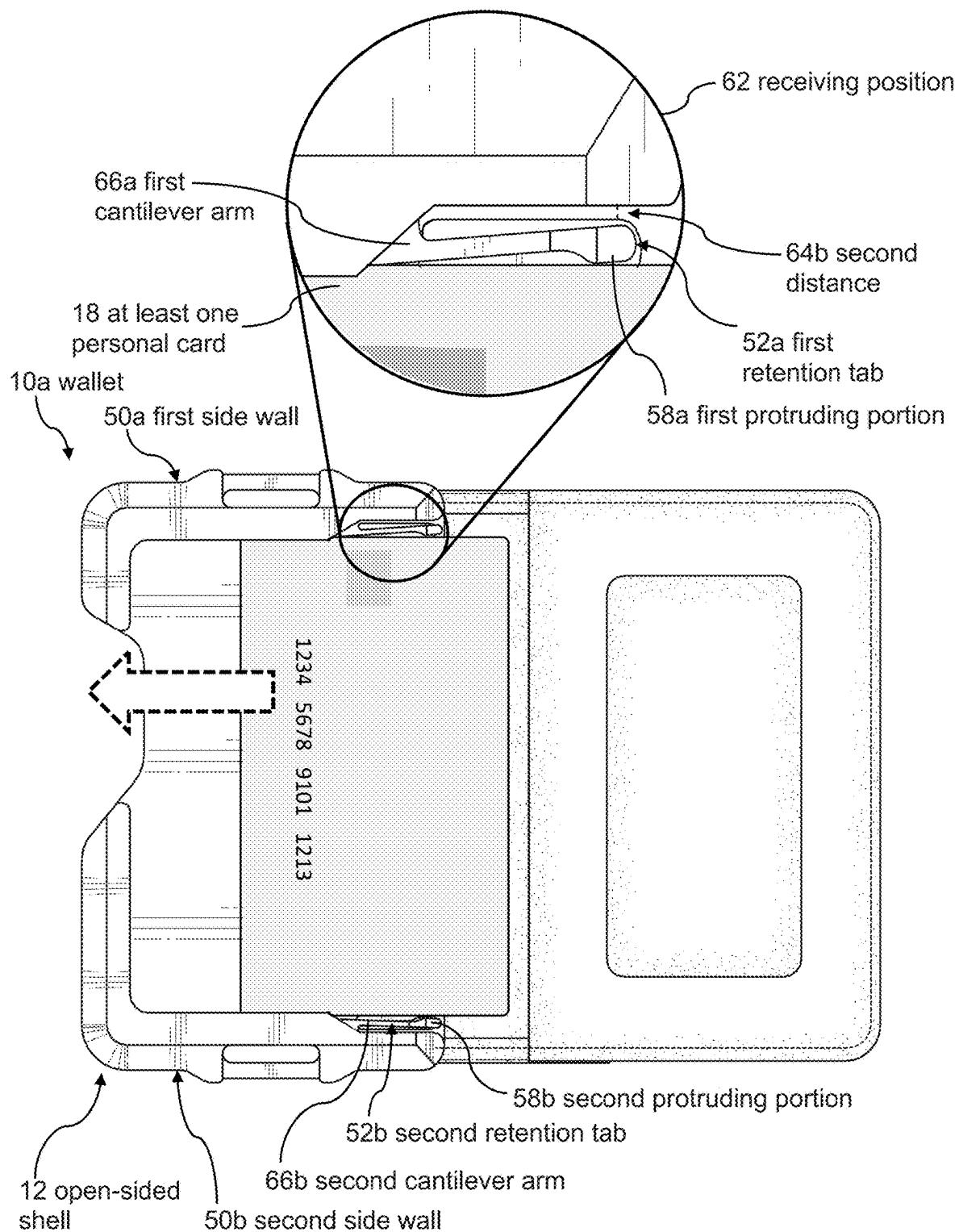


FIG. 12

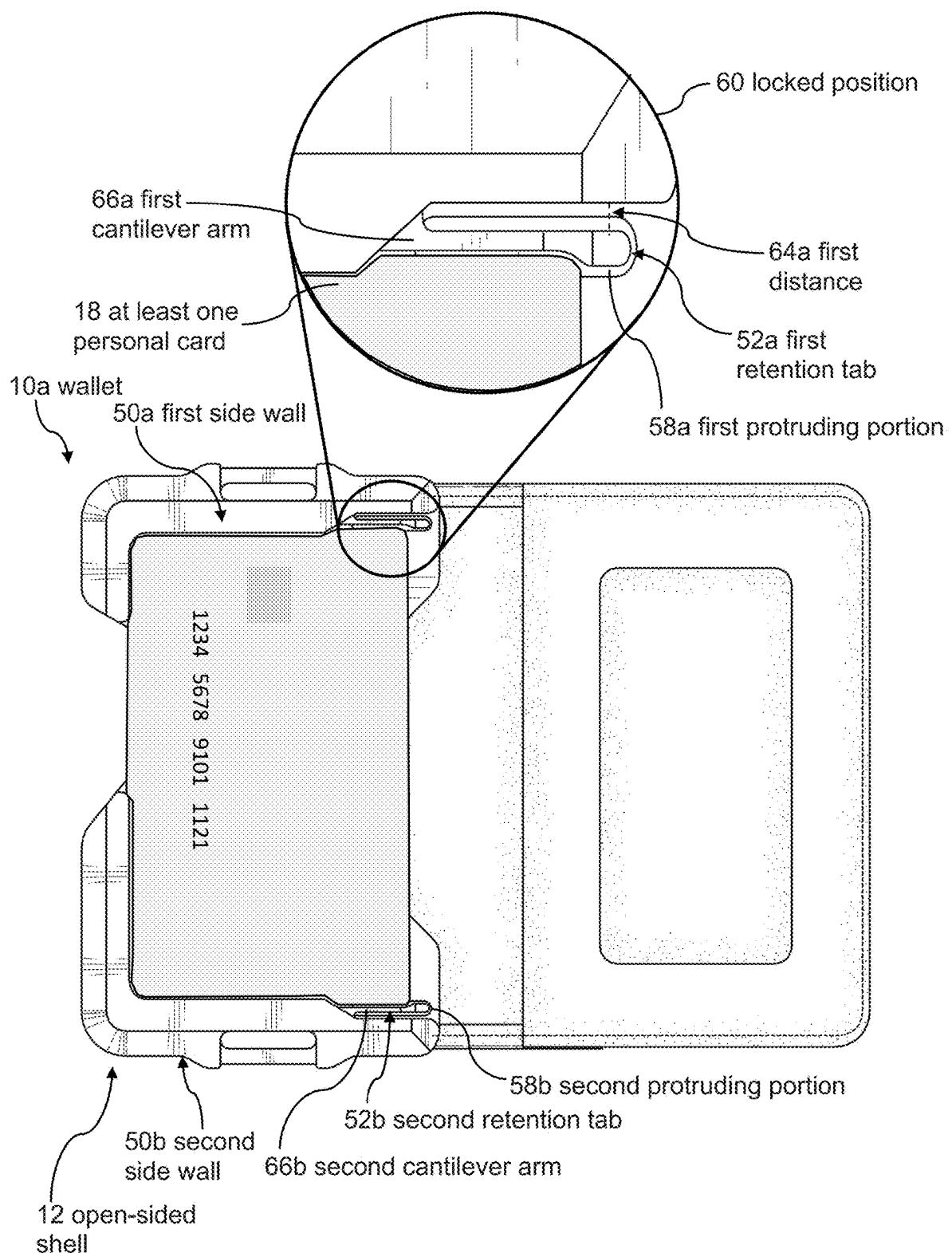


FIG. 13

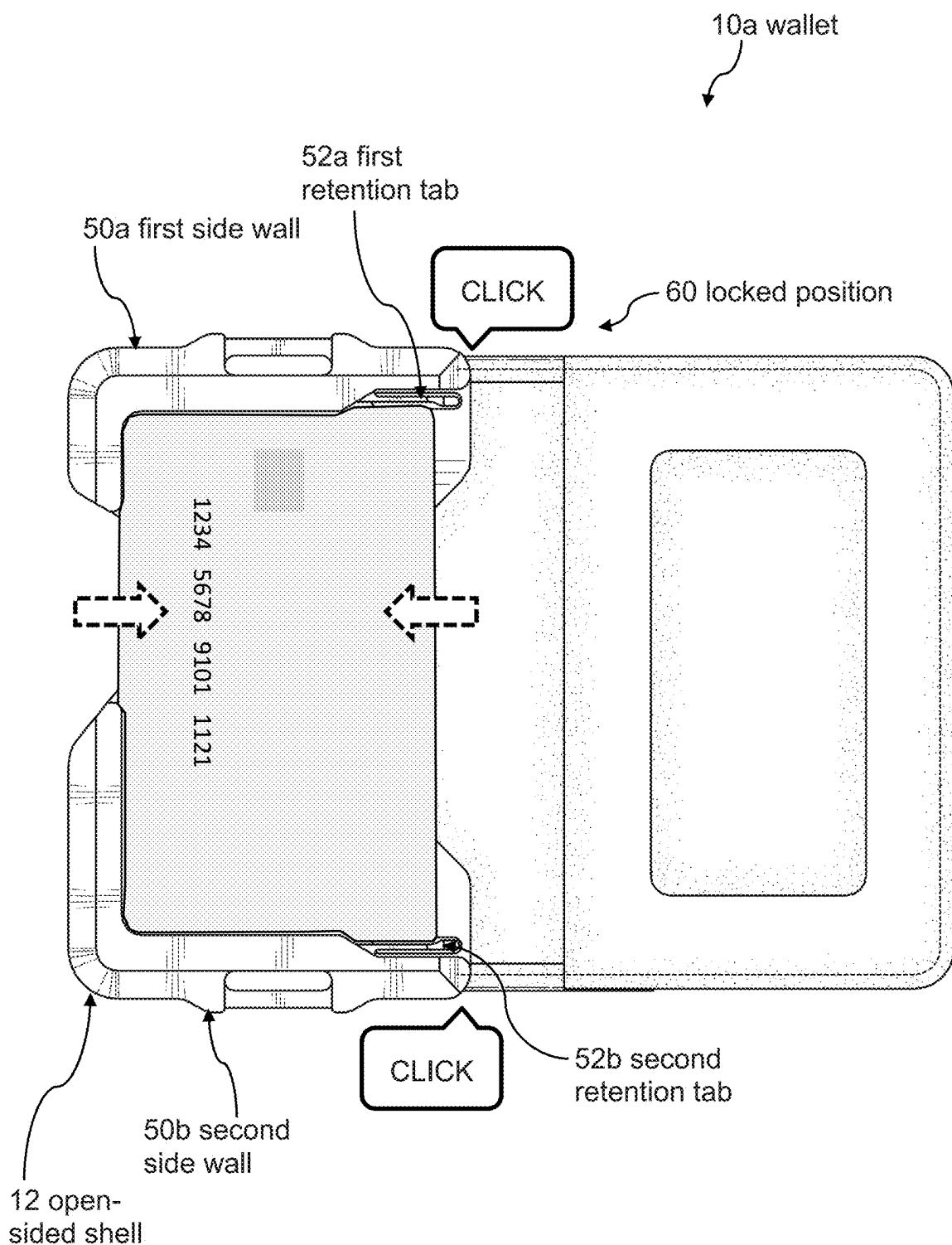


FIG. 14

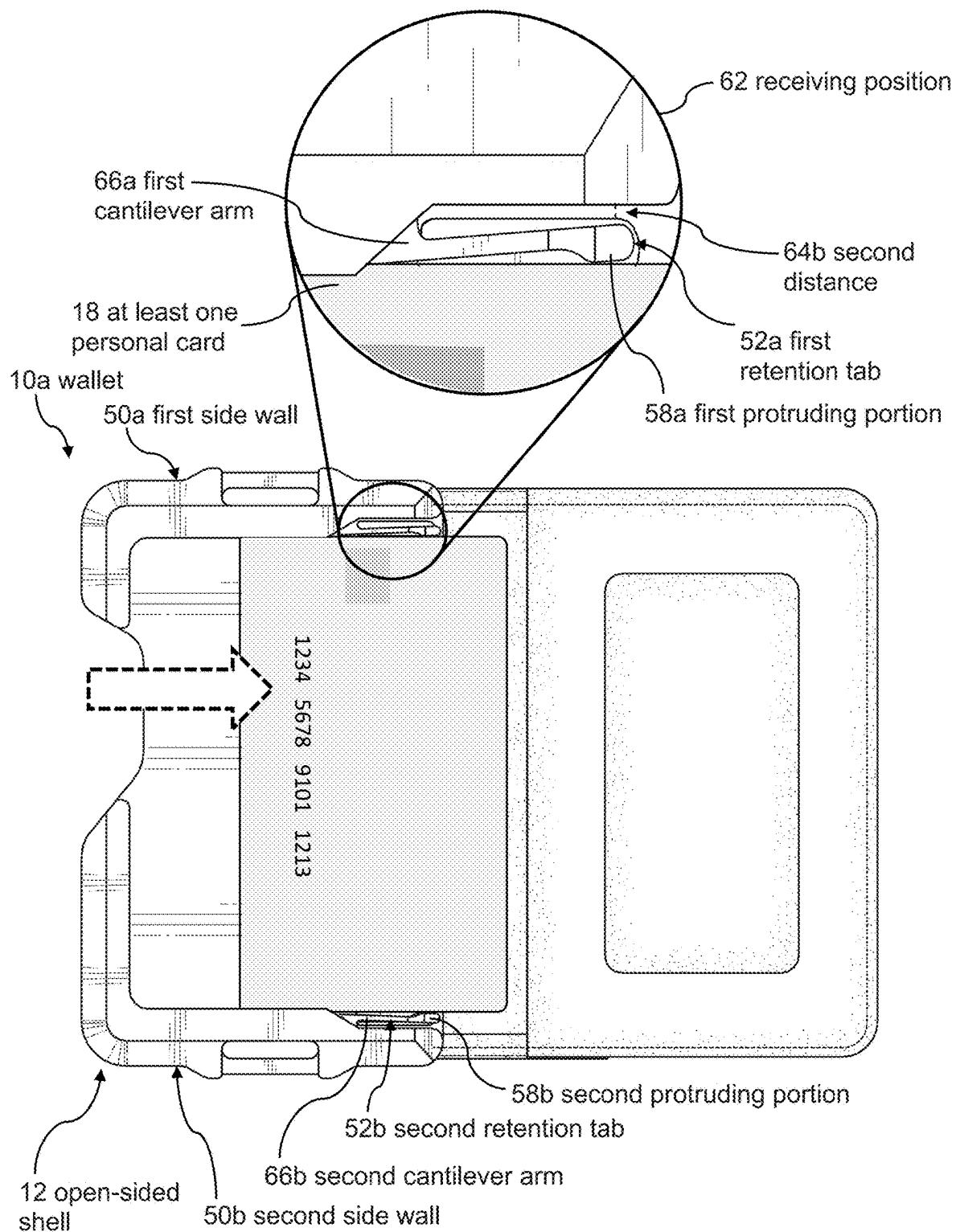


FIG. 15

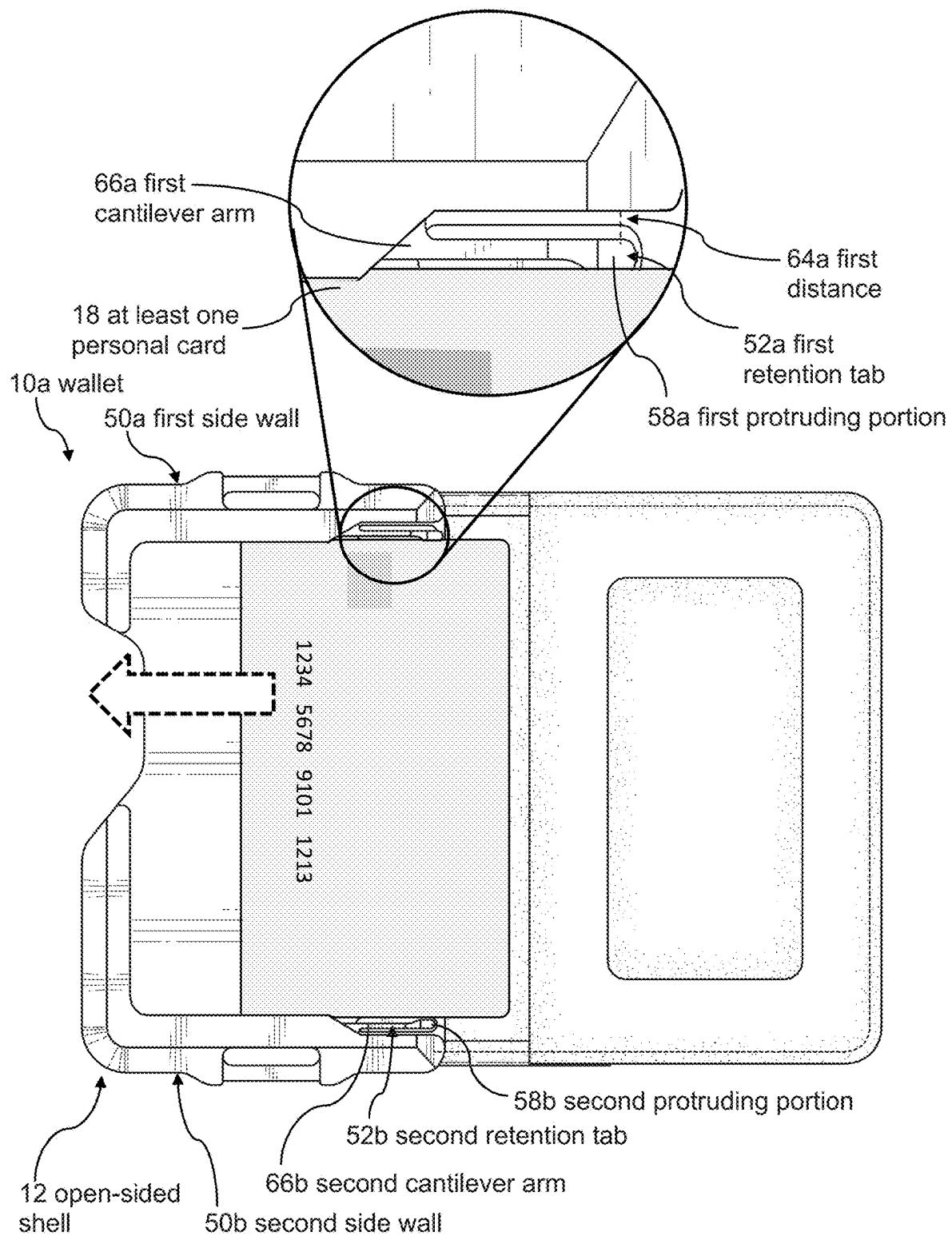


FIG. 16

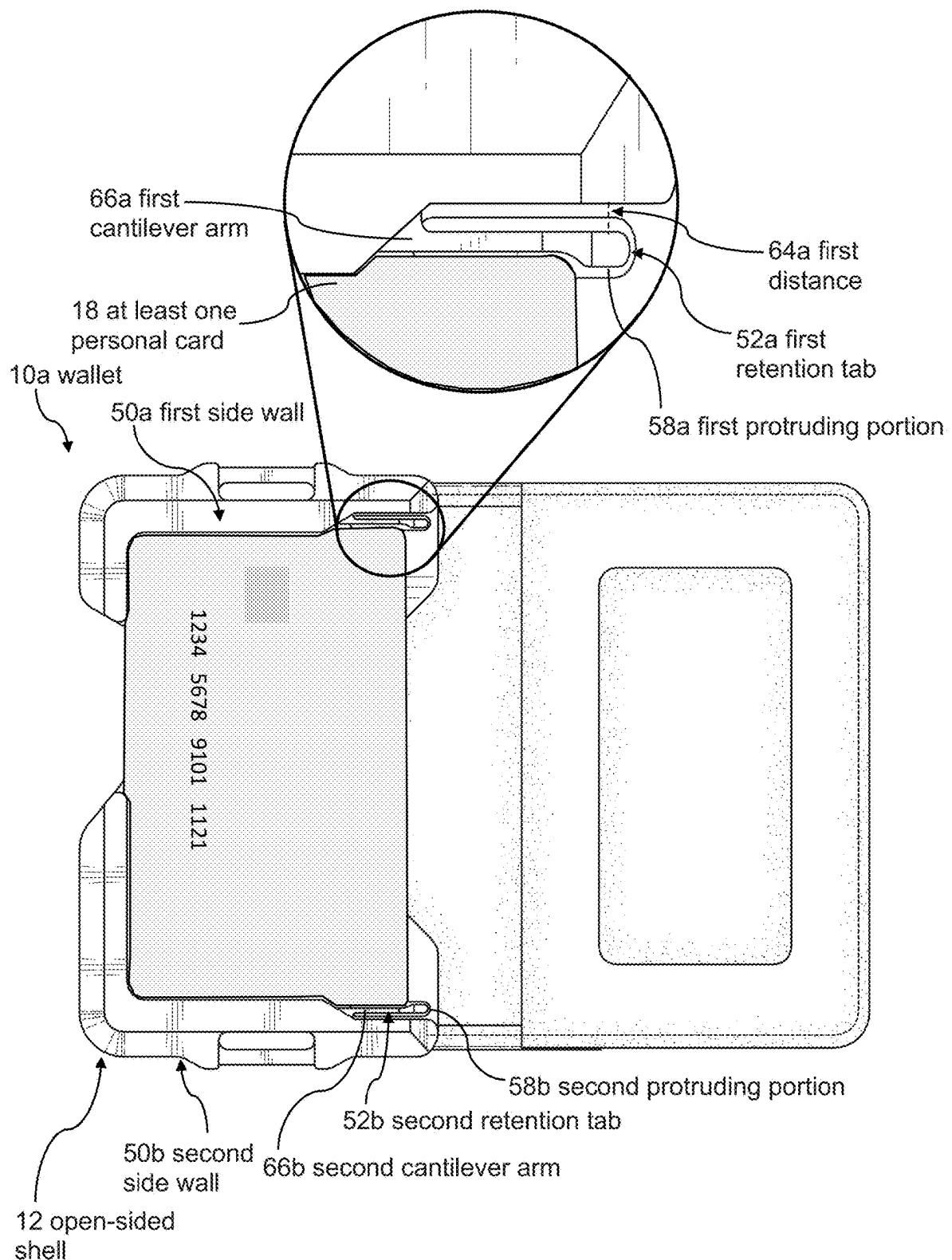


FIG. 17

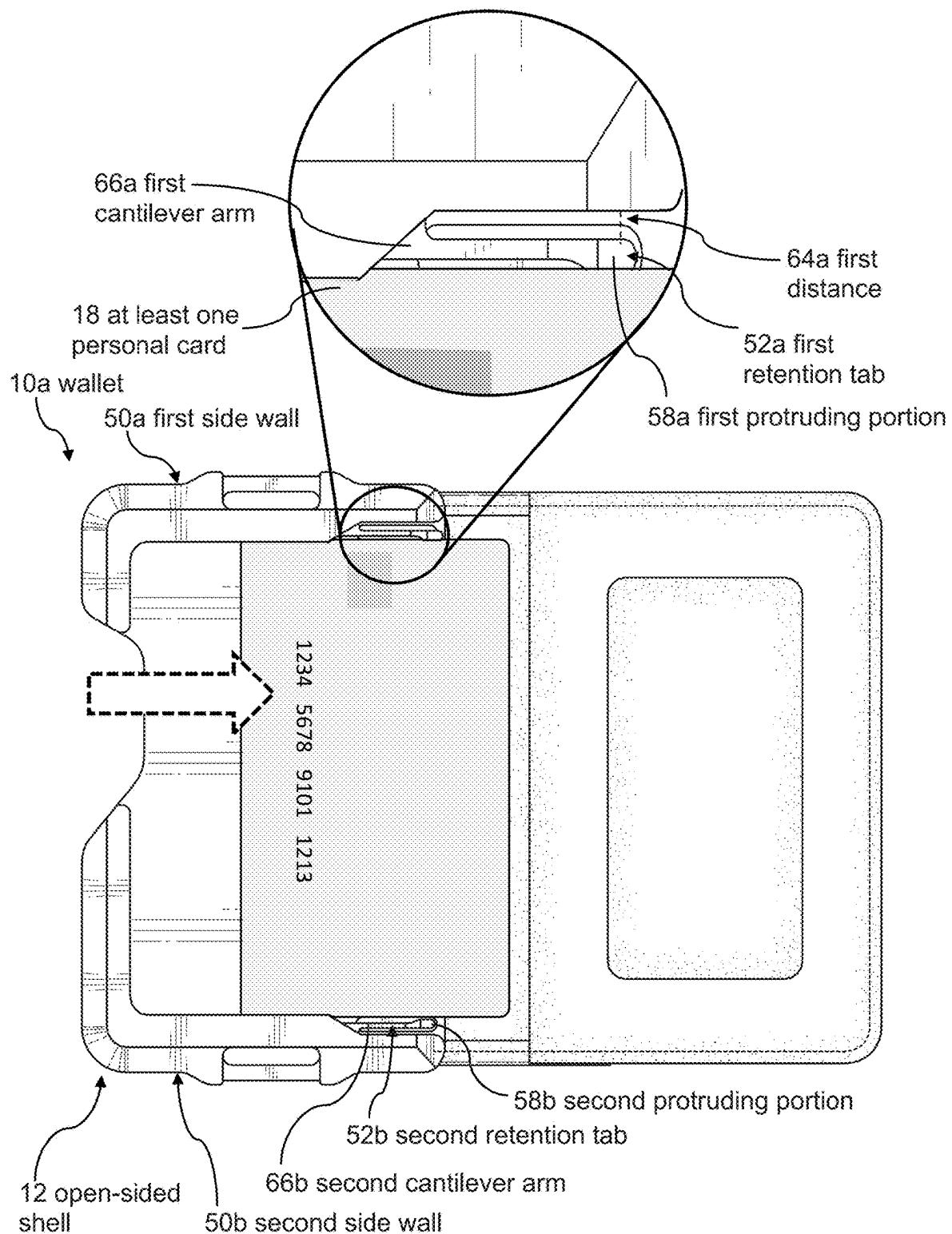


FIG. 18

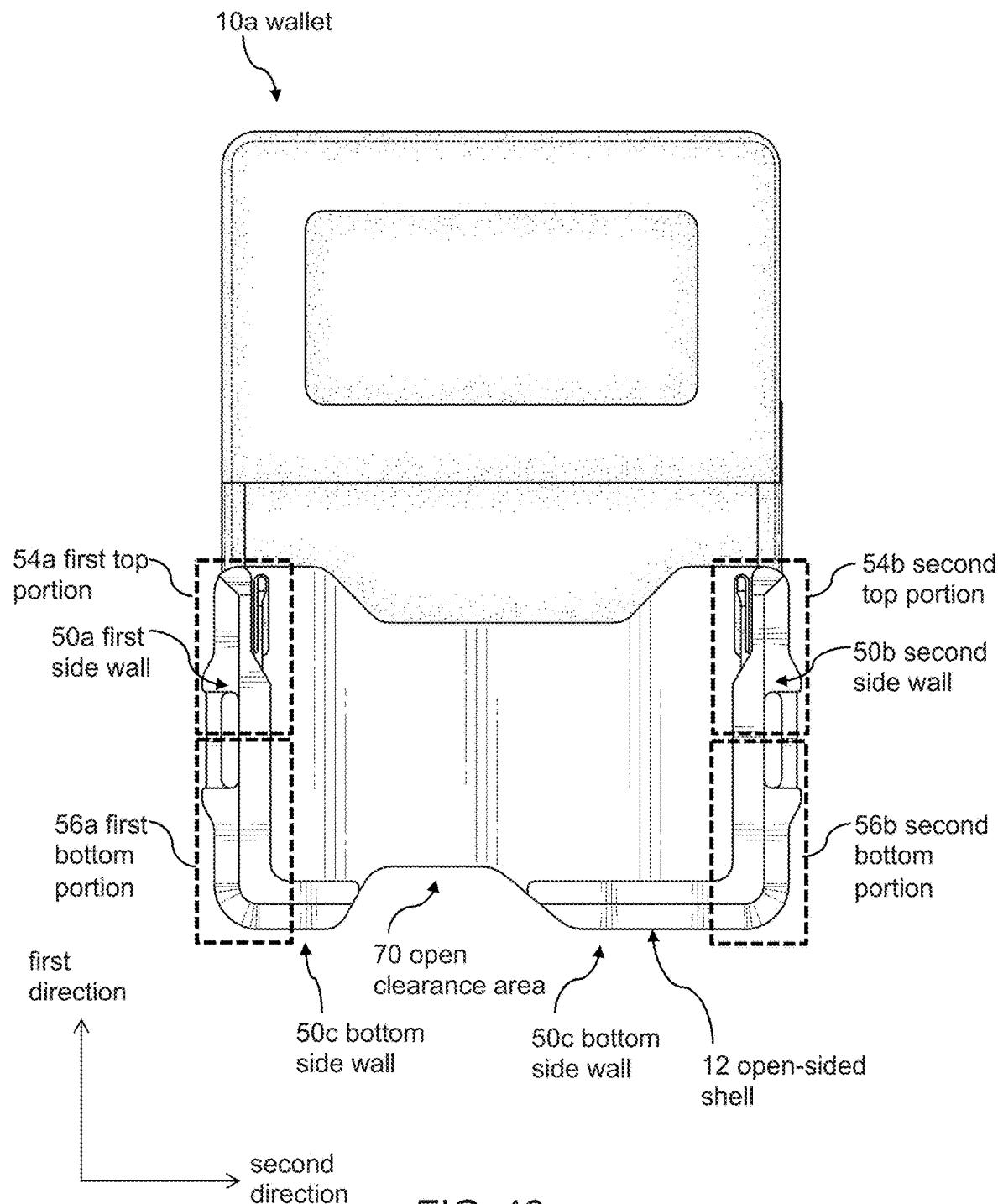


FIG. 19

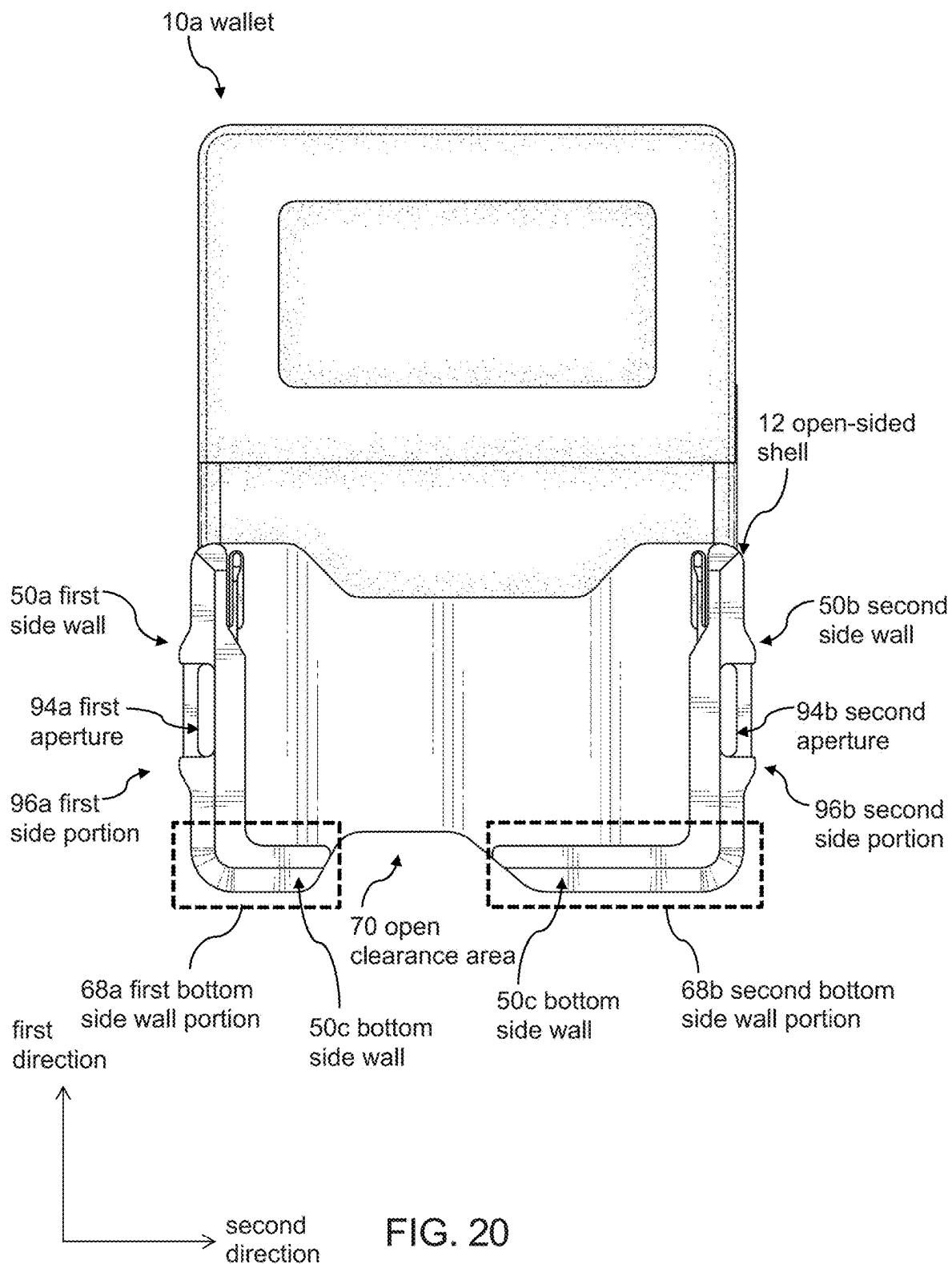


FIG. 20

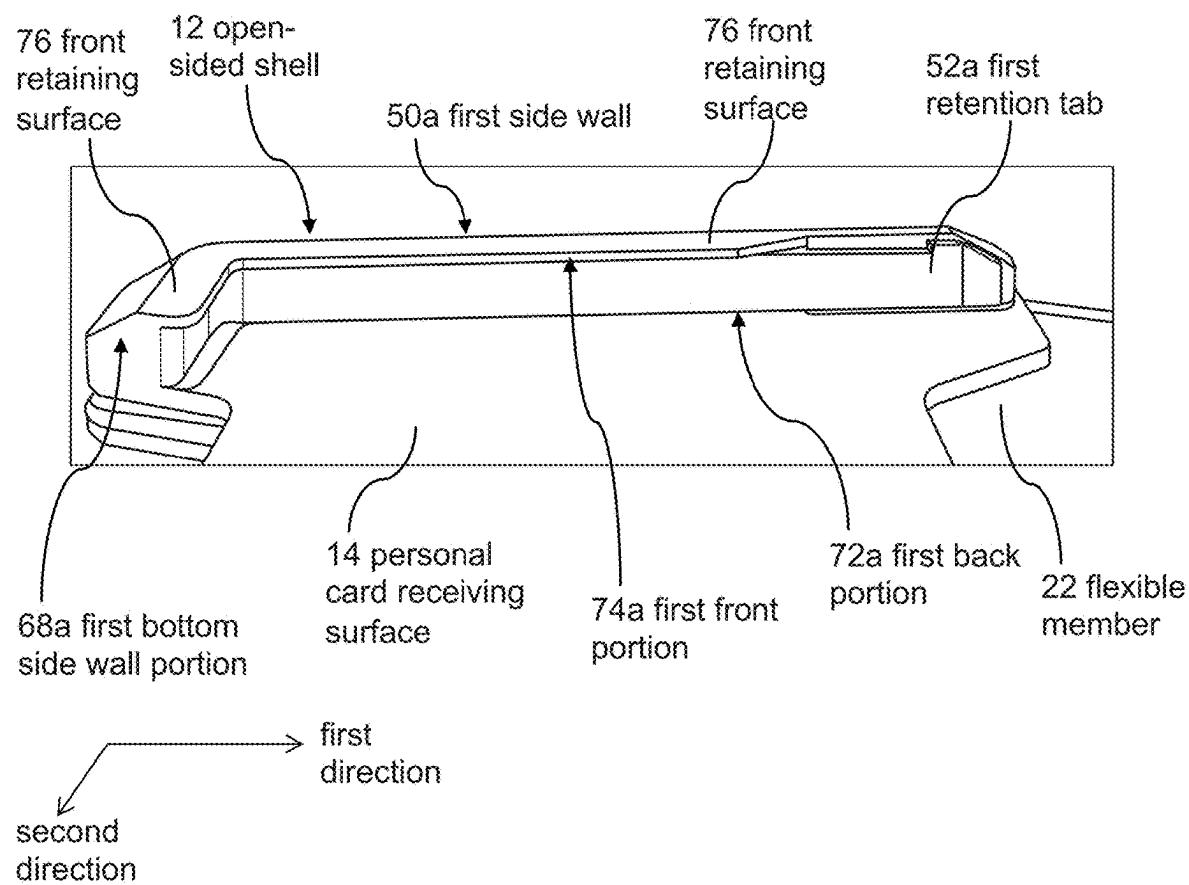


FIG. 21

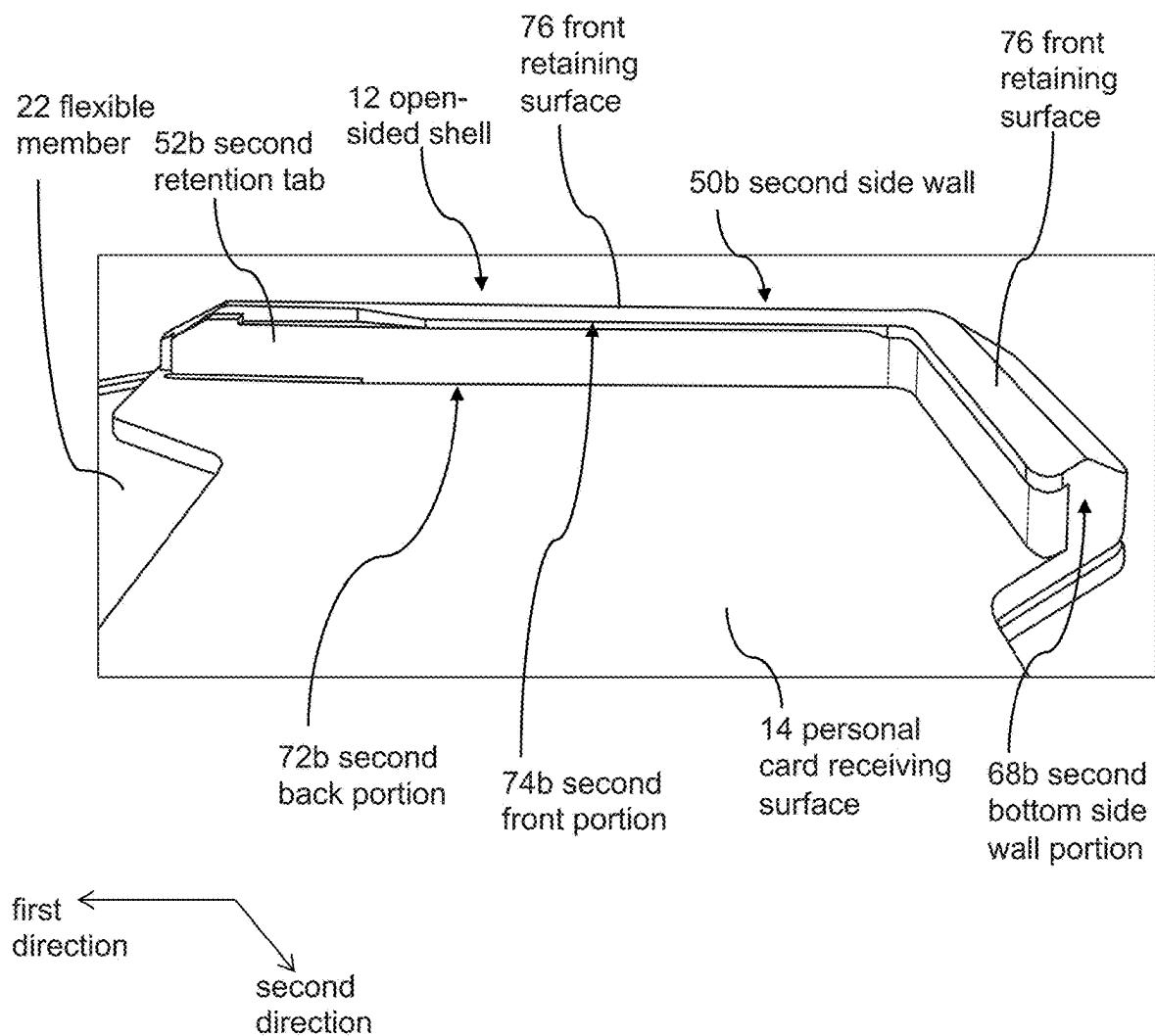


FIG. 22

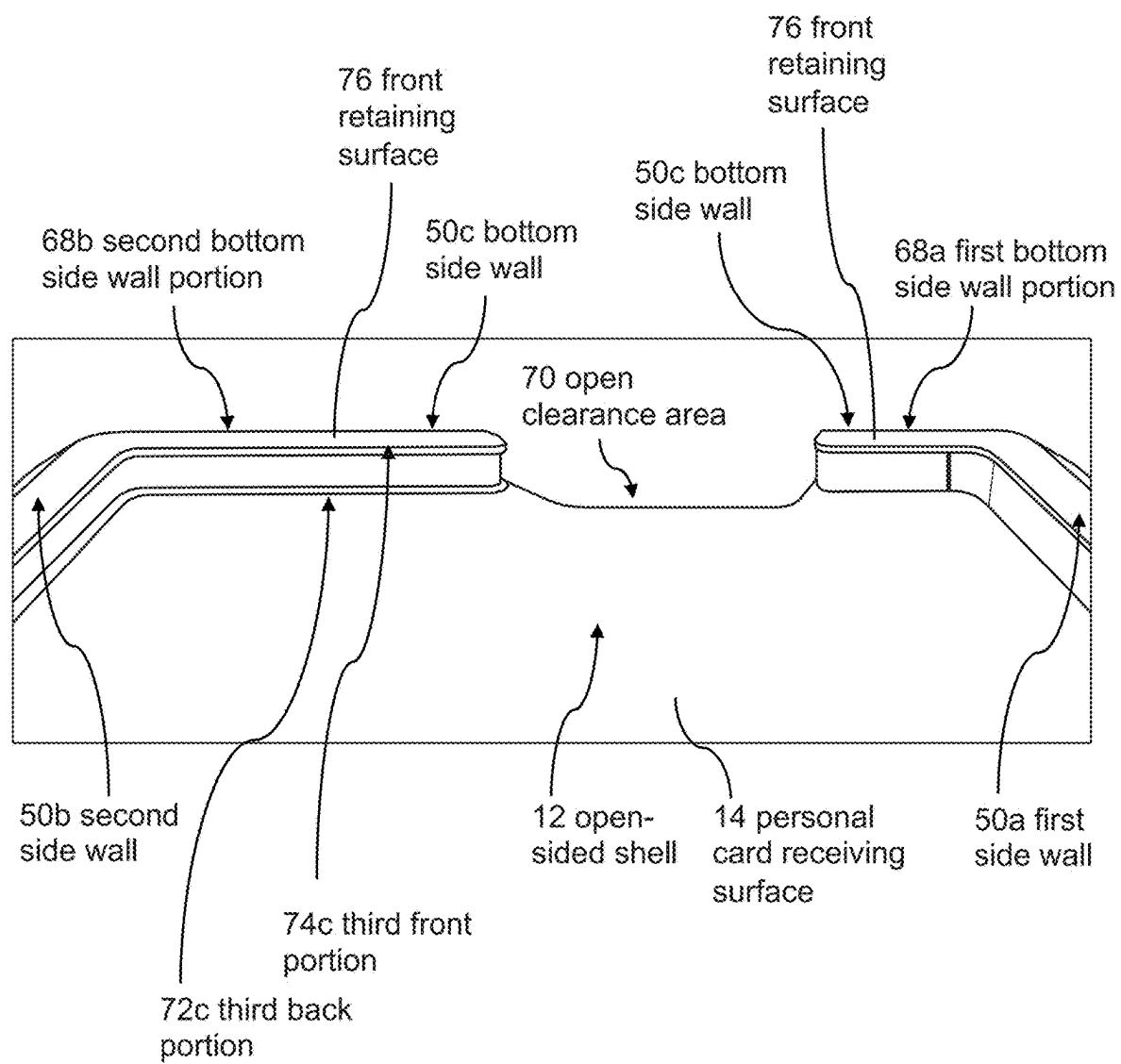


FIG. 23

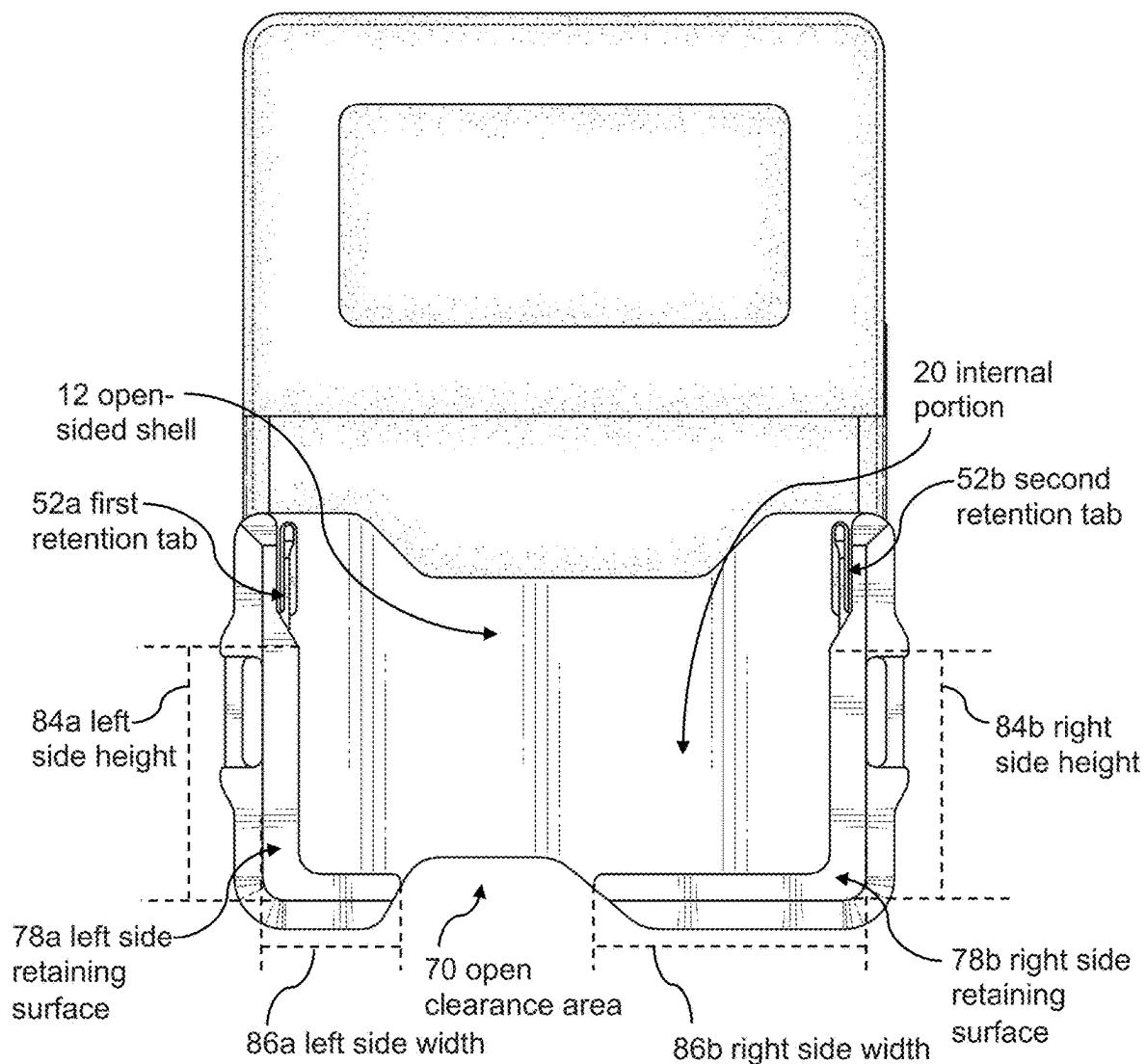


FIG. 24



FIG. 25A

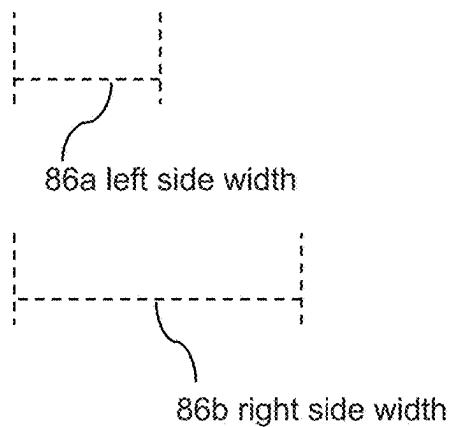


FIG. 25B

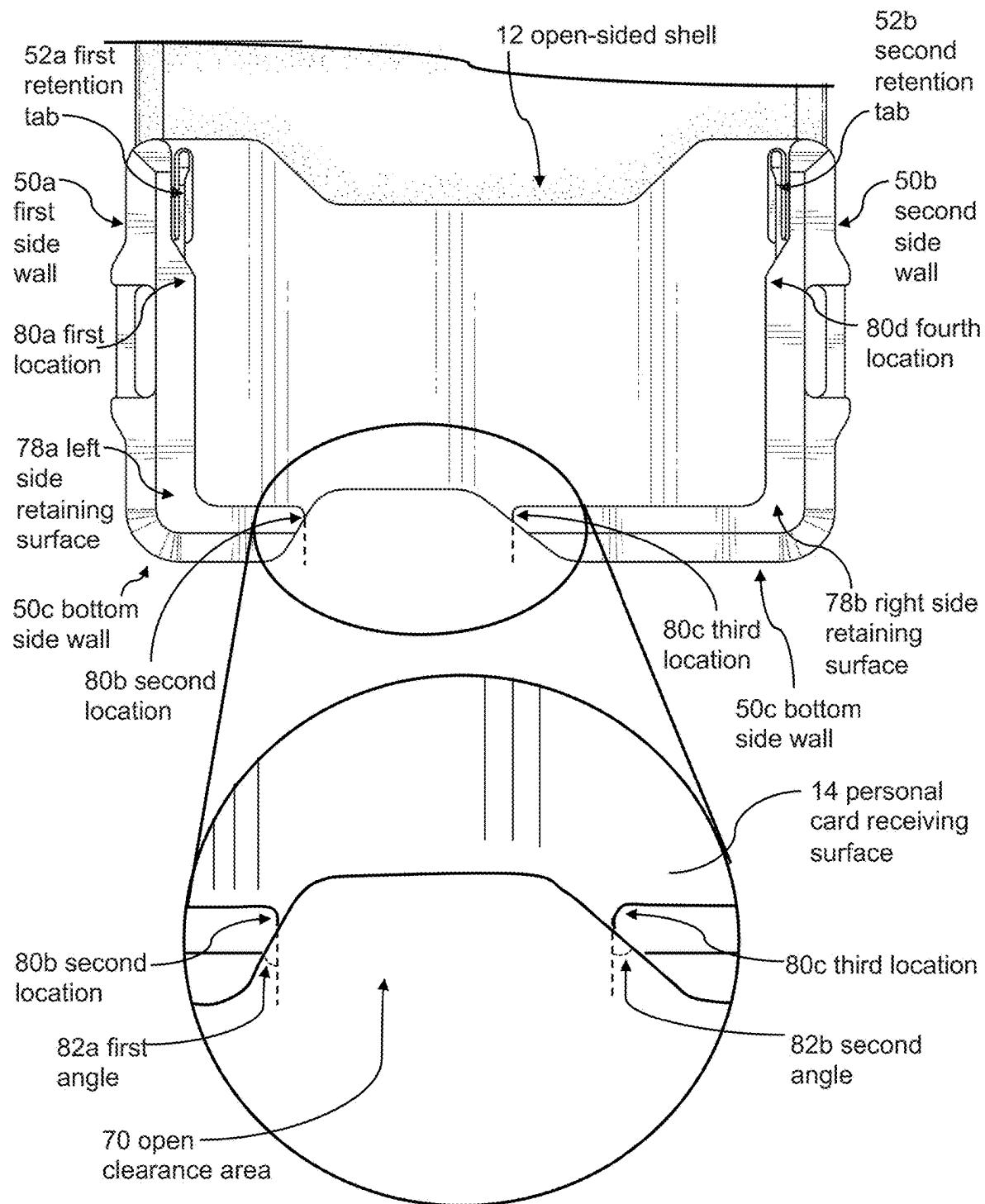


FIG. 26

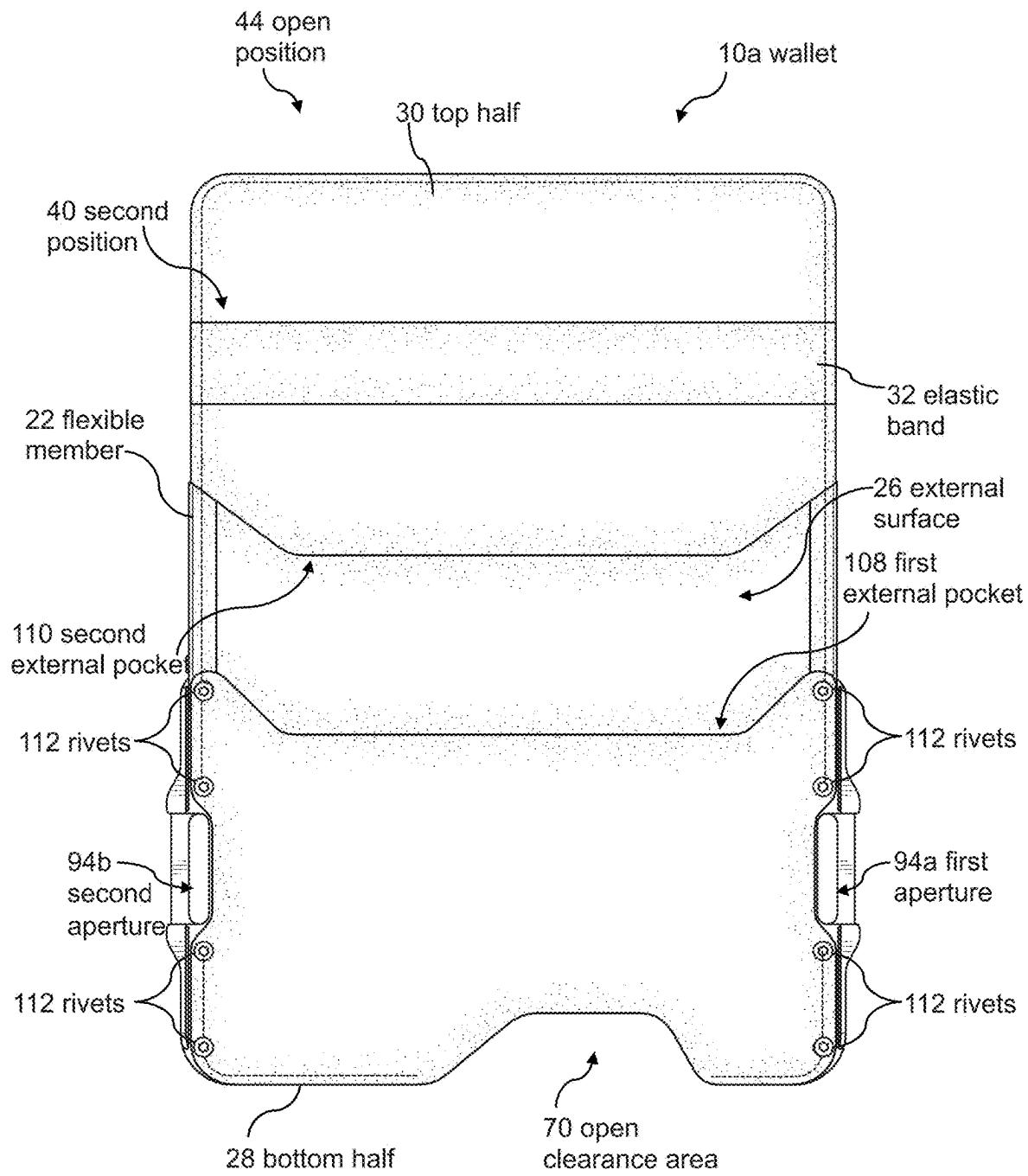


FIG. 27

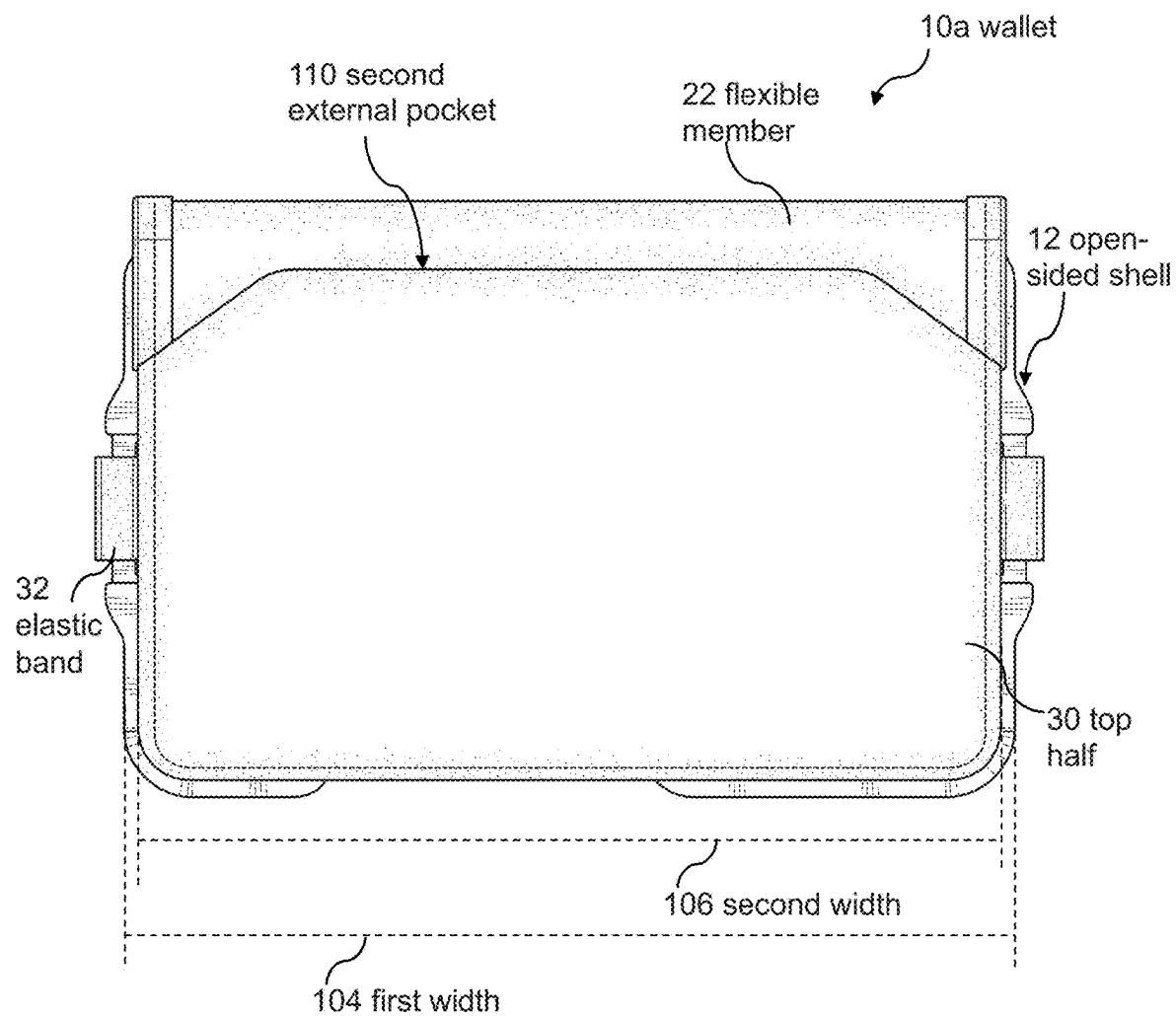


FIG. 28

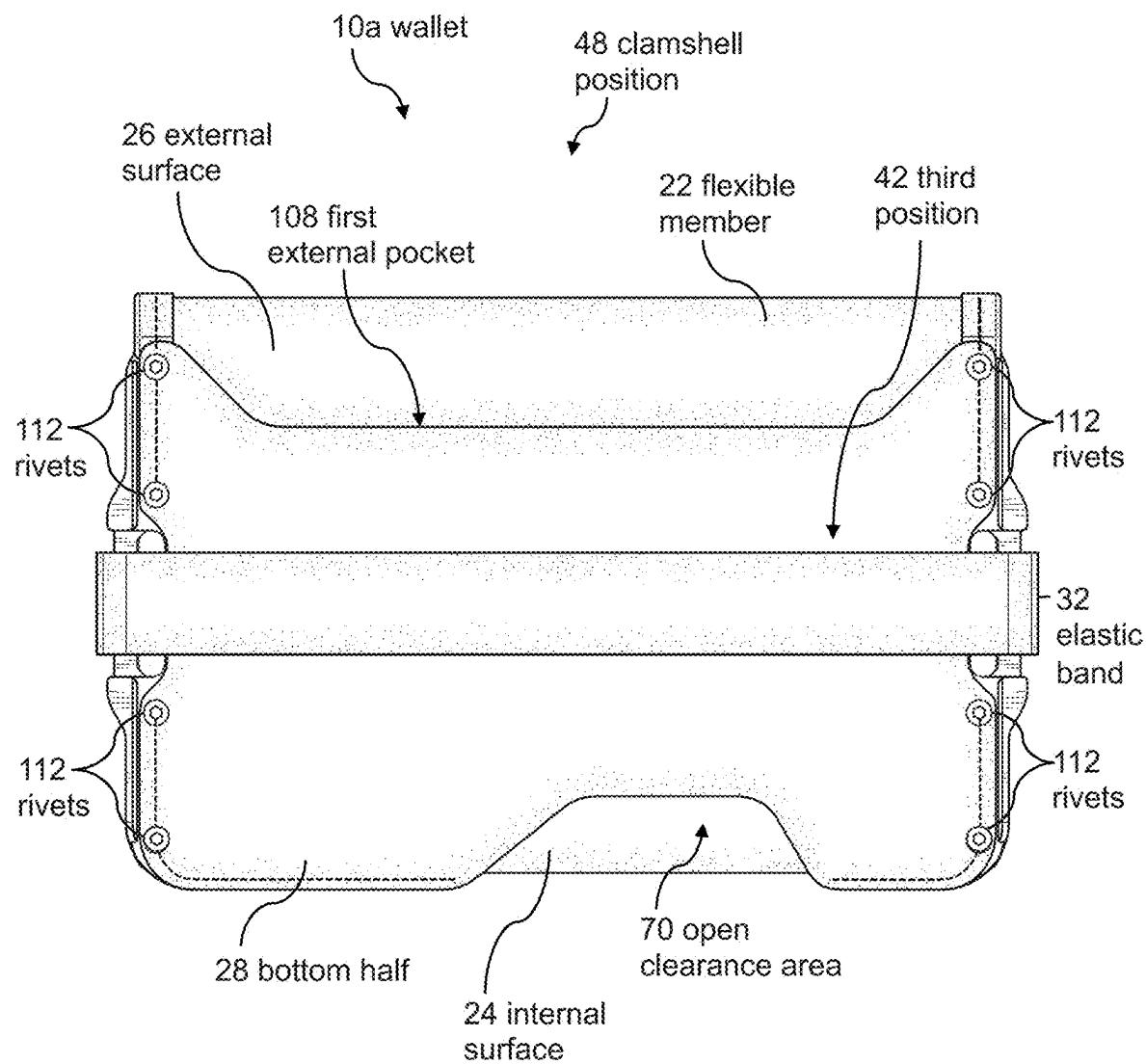


FIG. 29

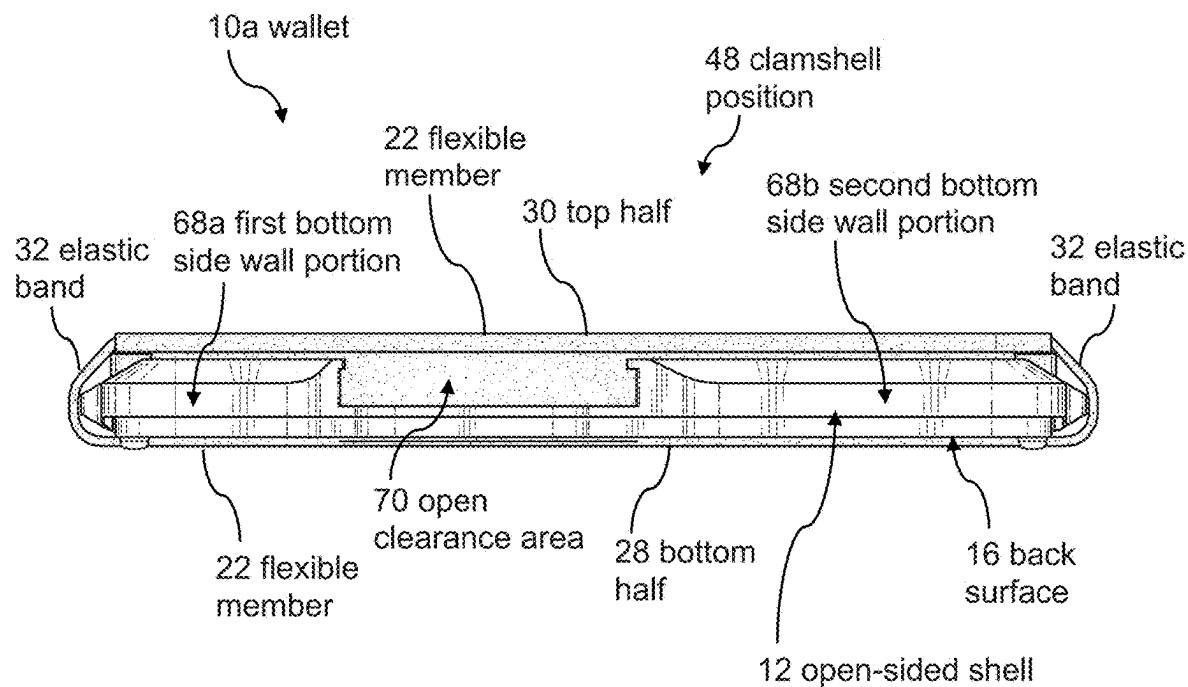


FIG. 30

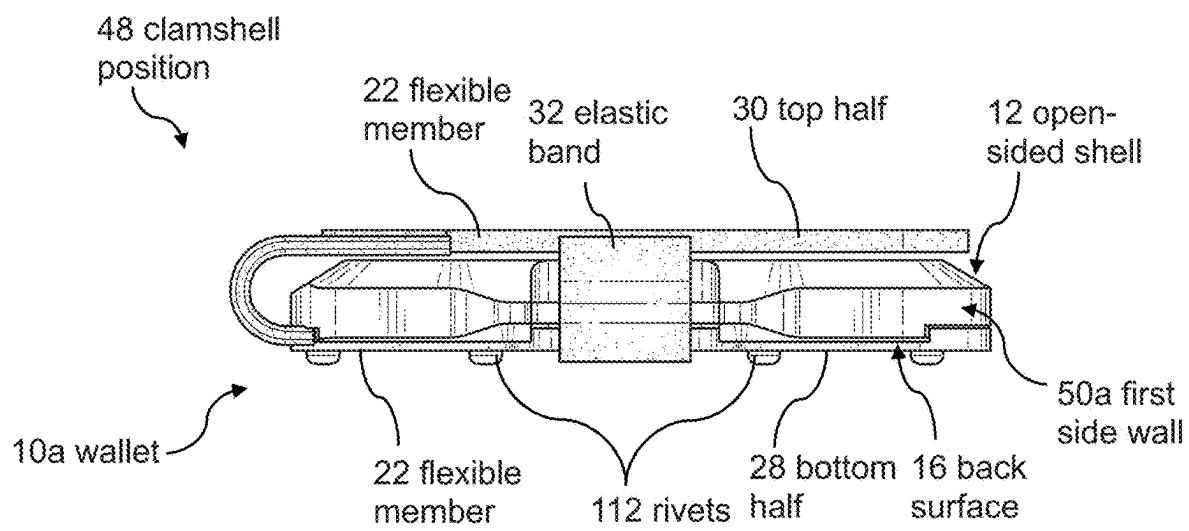


FIG. 31

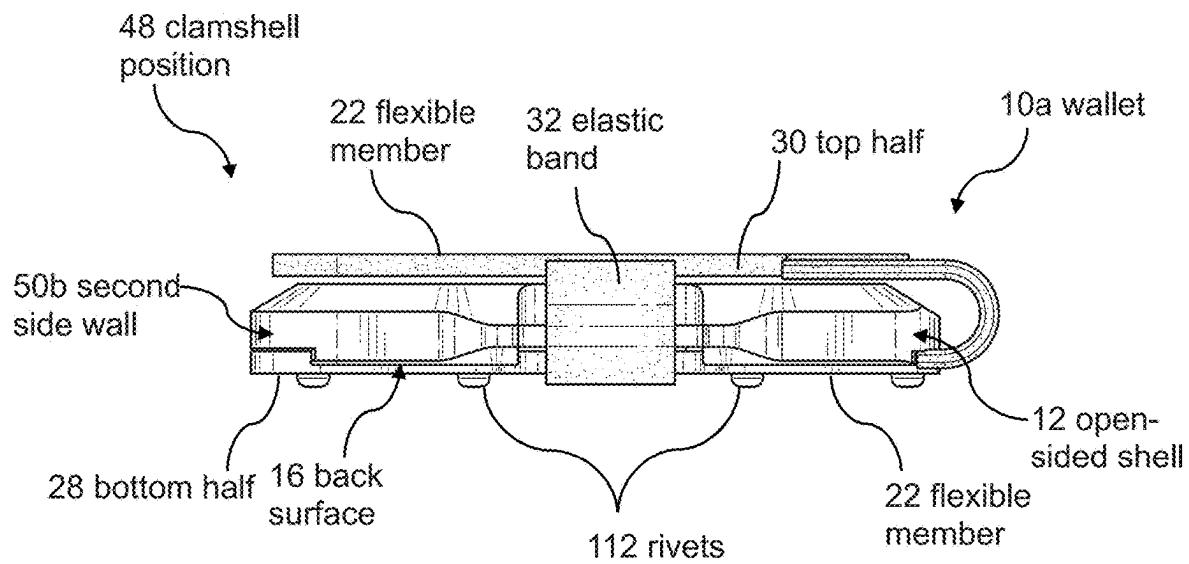


FIG. 32

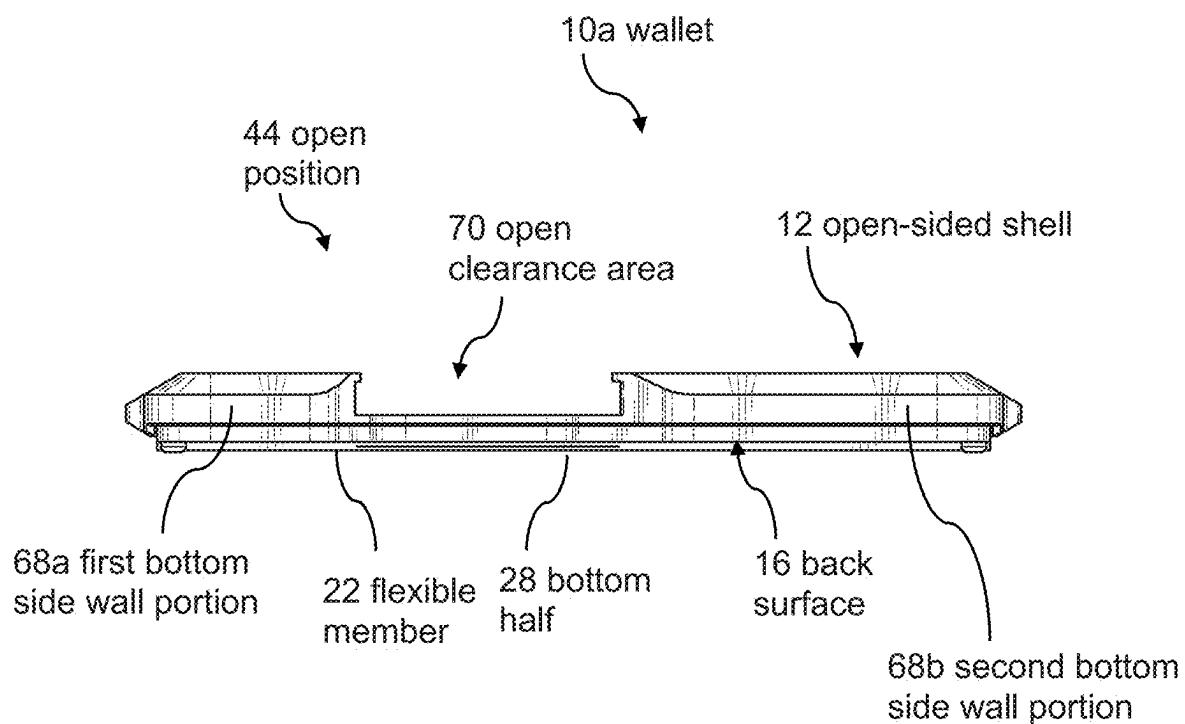


FIG. 33

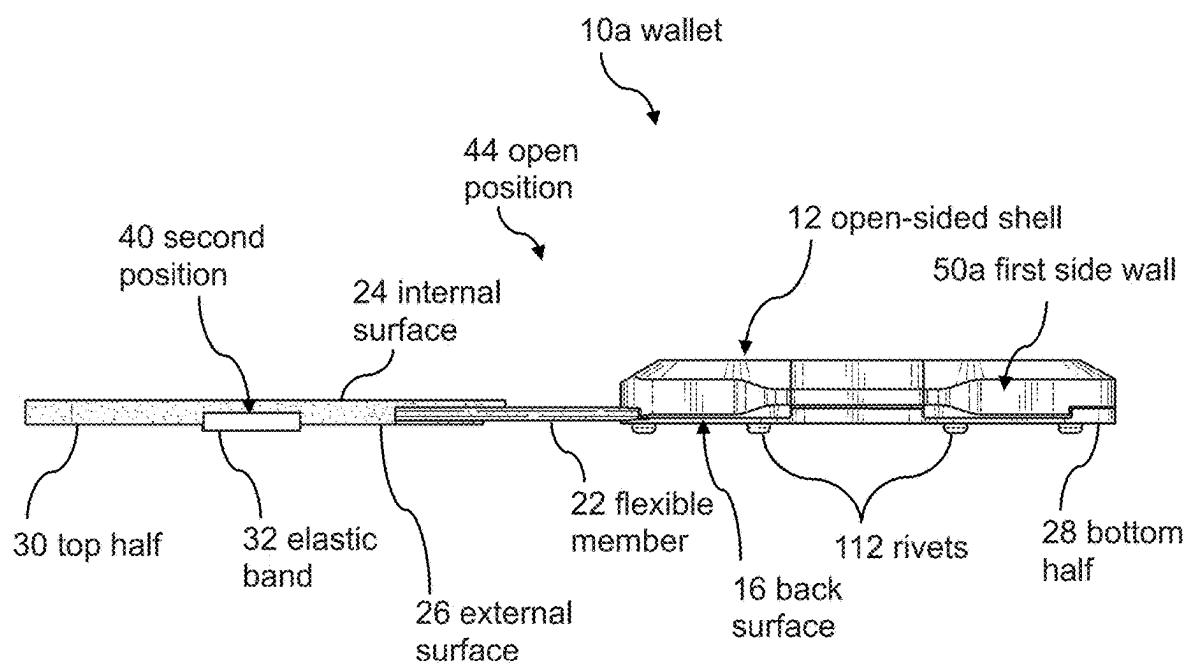


FIG. 34

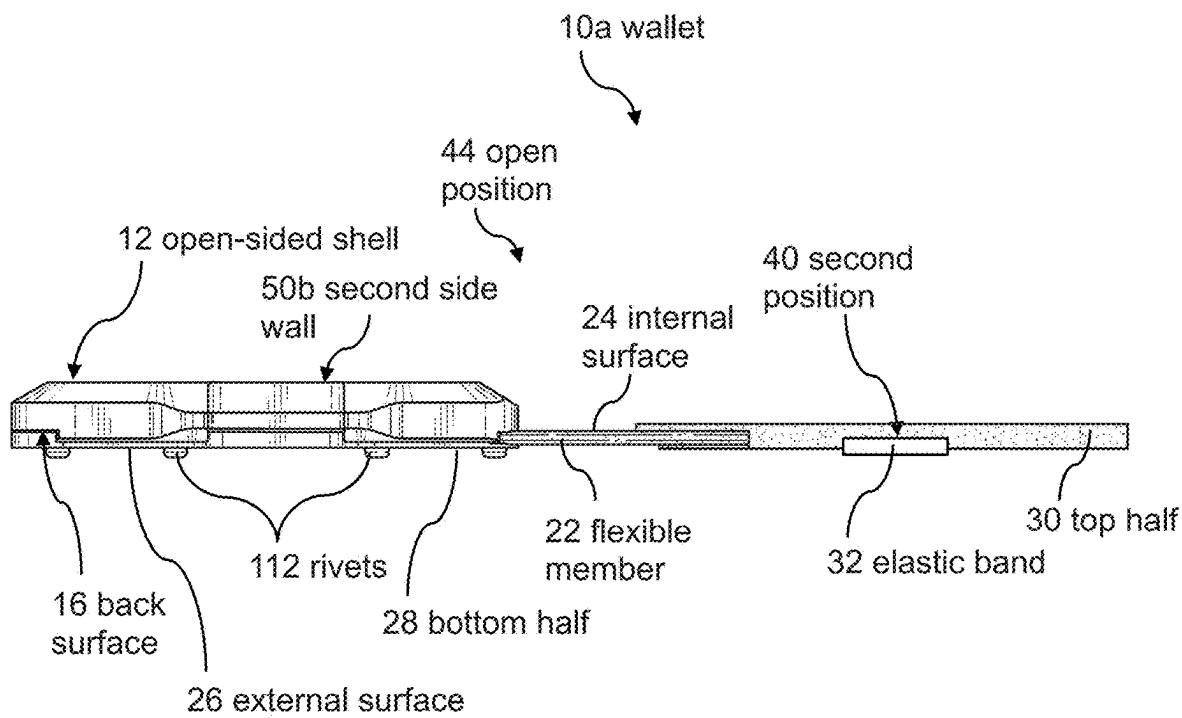


FIG. 35

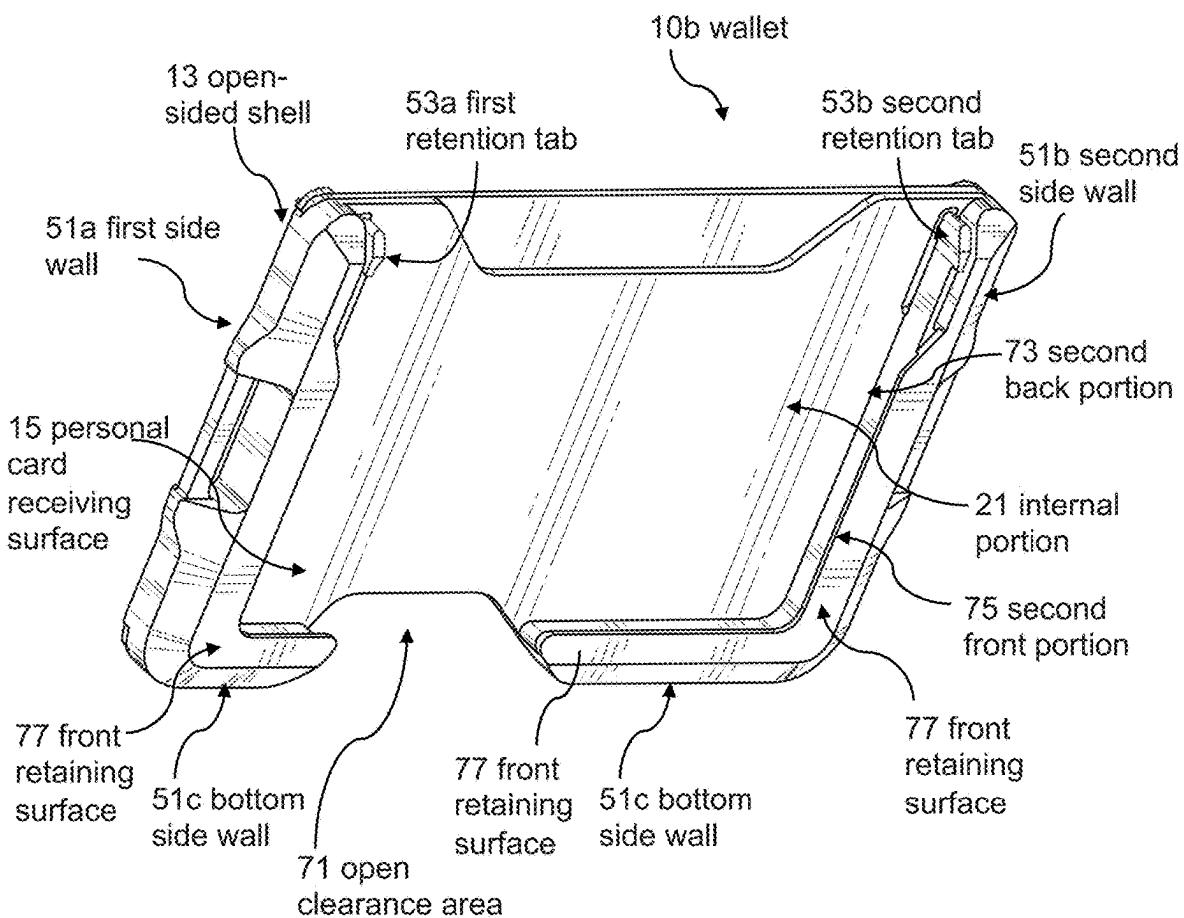


FIG. 36

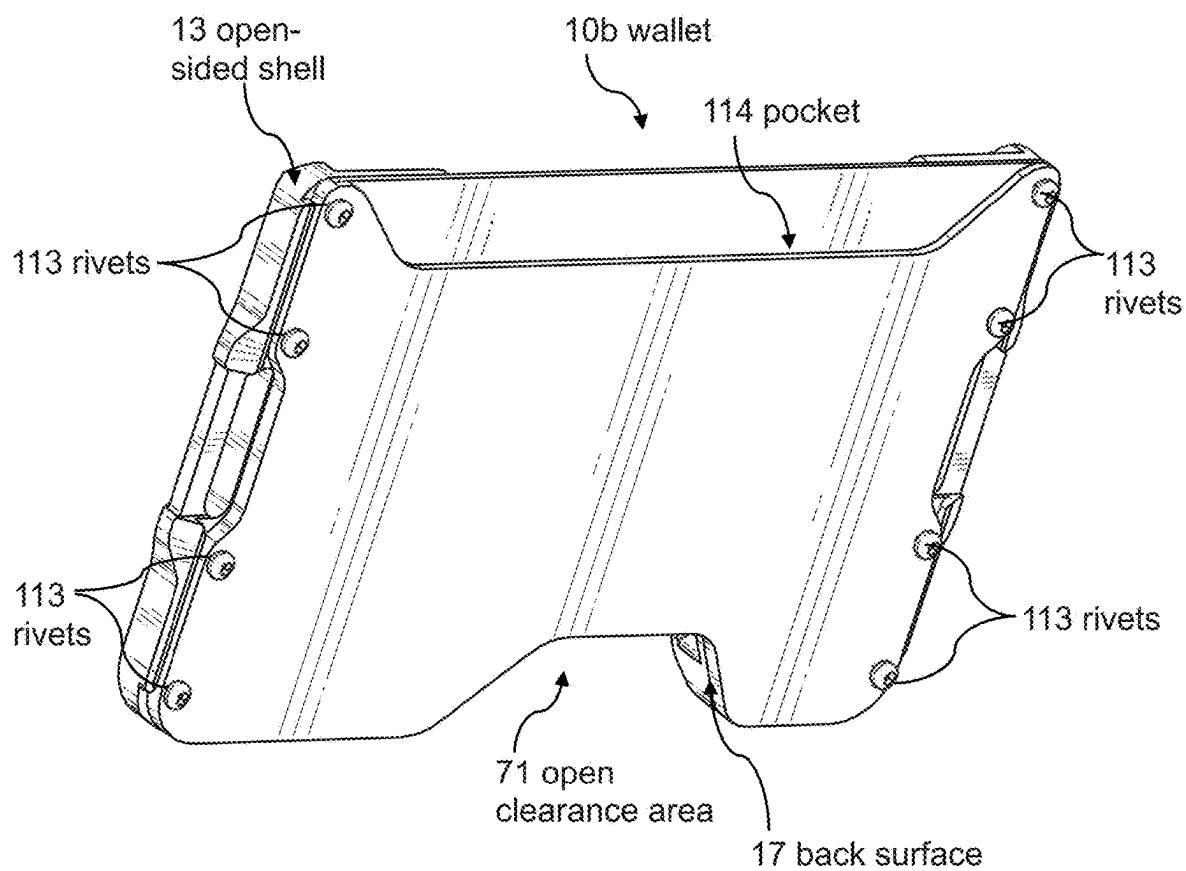


FIG. 37

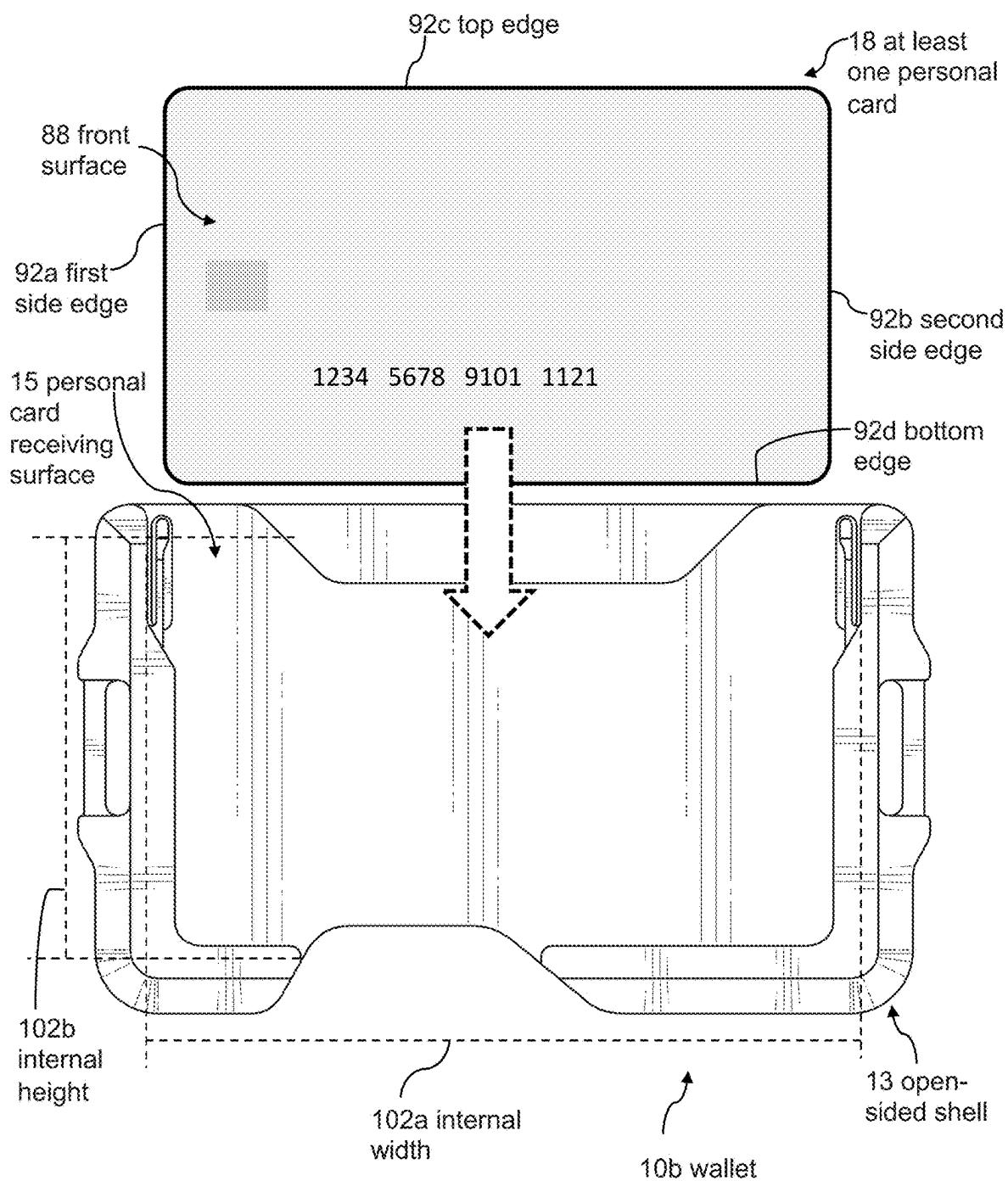


FIG. 38

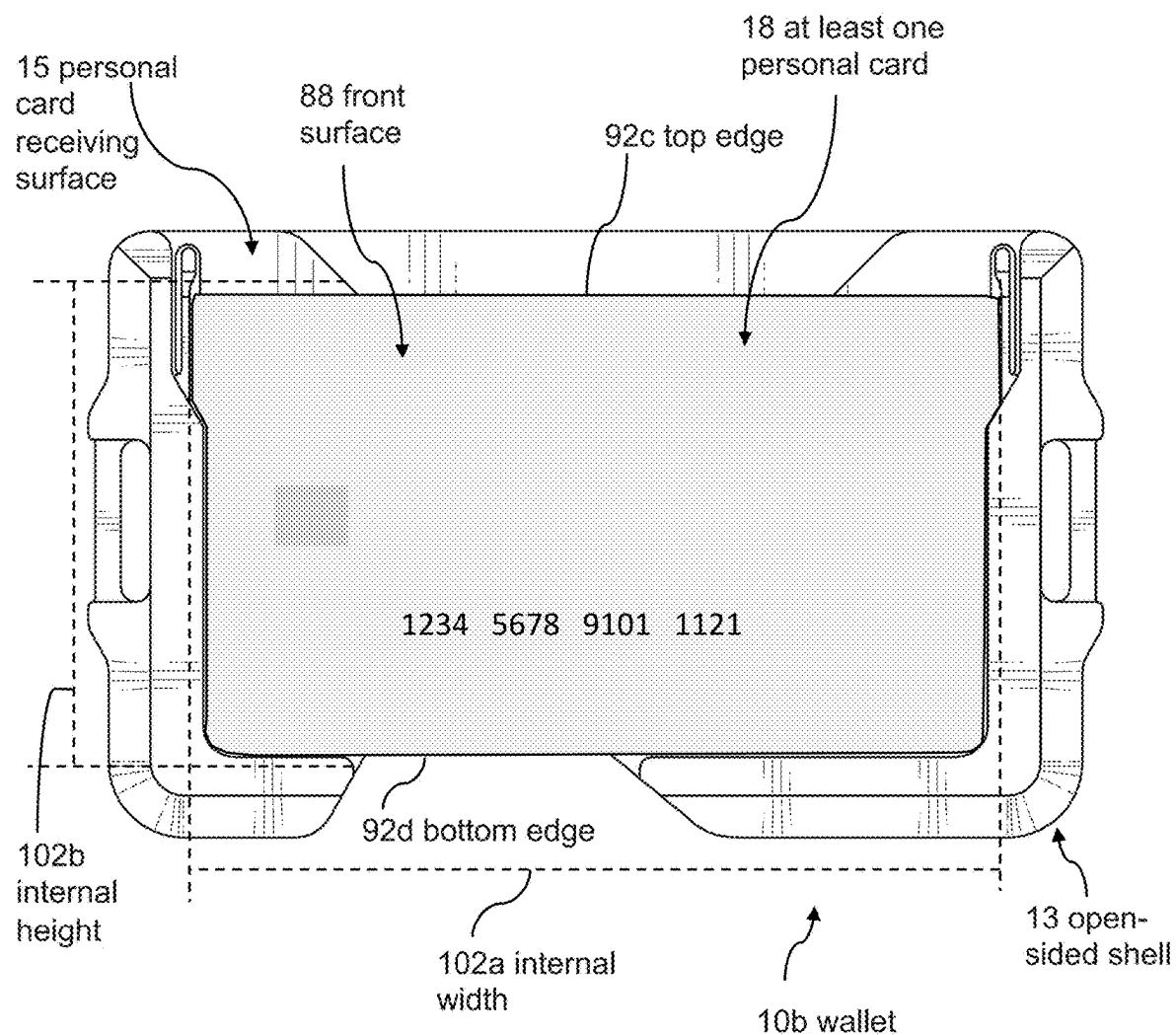


FIG. 39

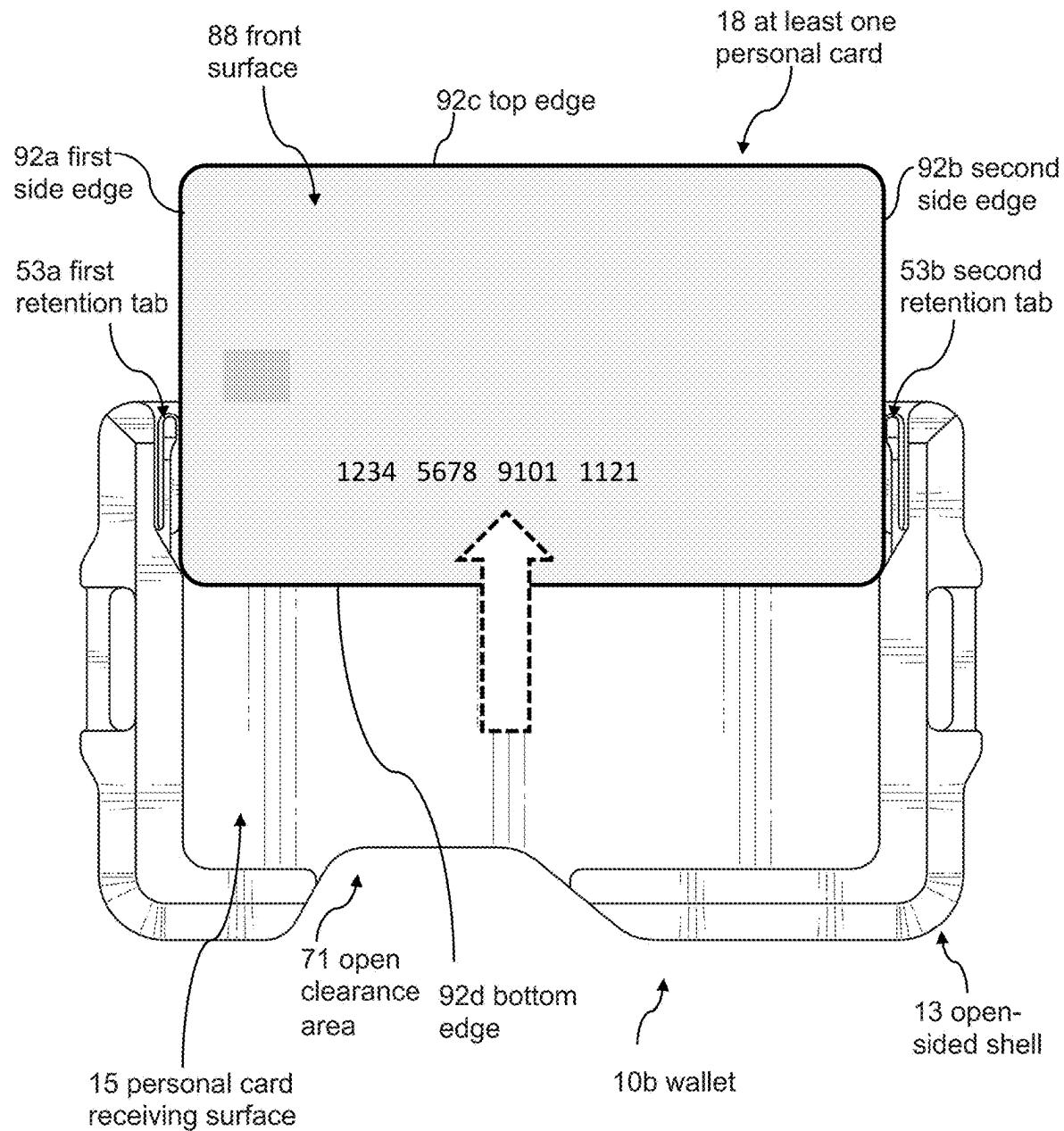


FIG. 40

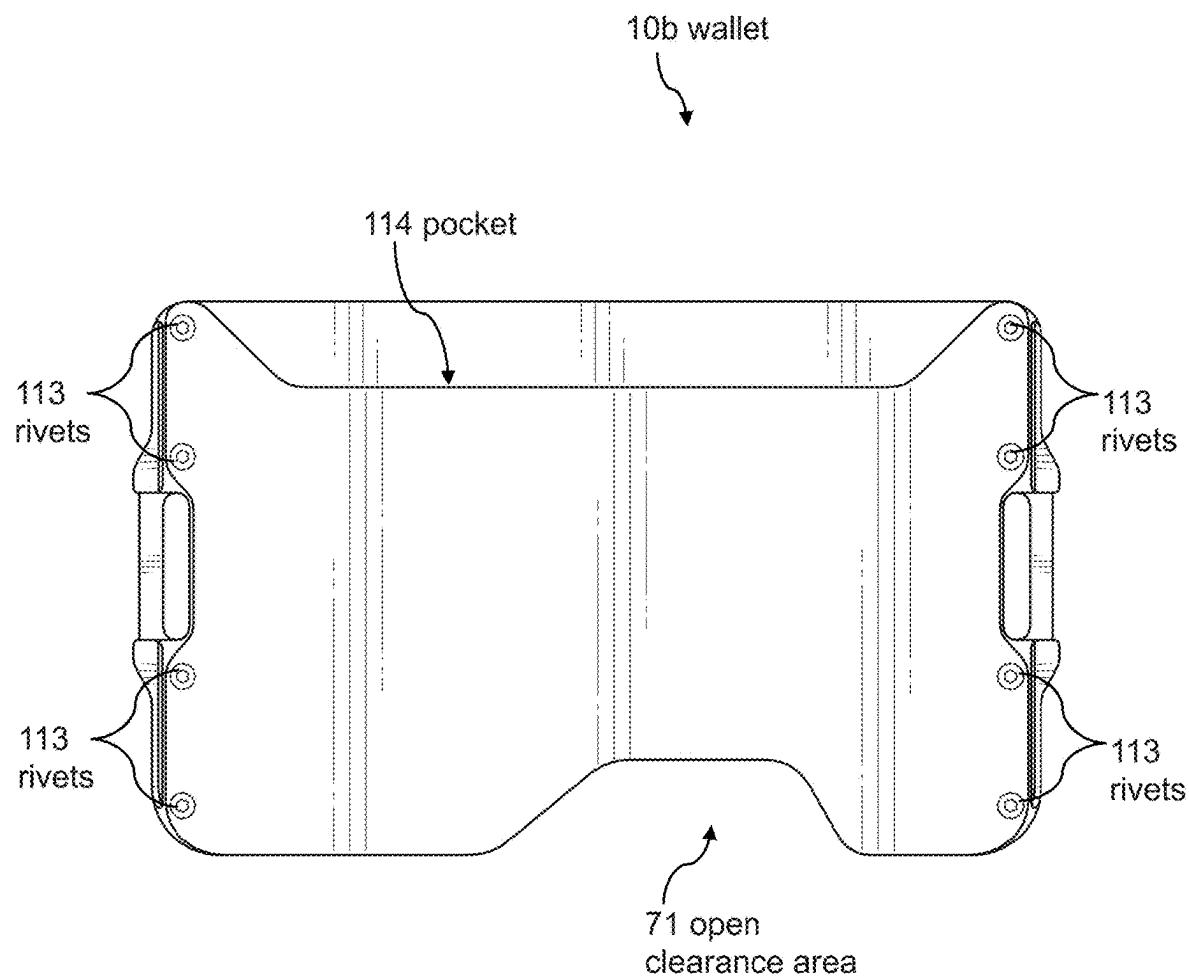


FIG. 41

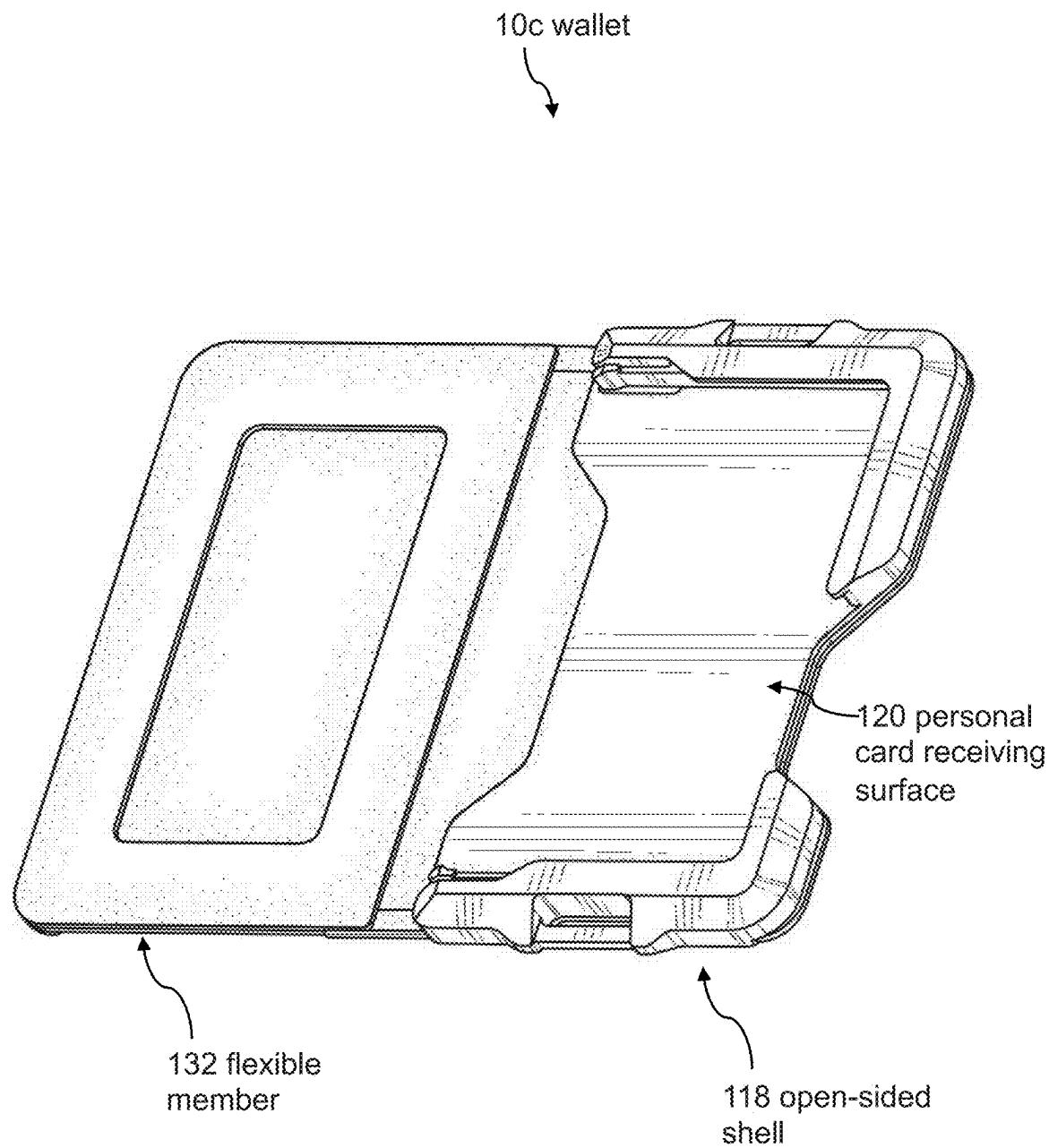


FIG. 42

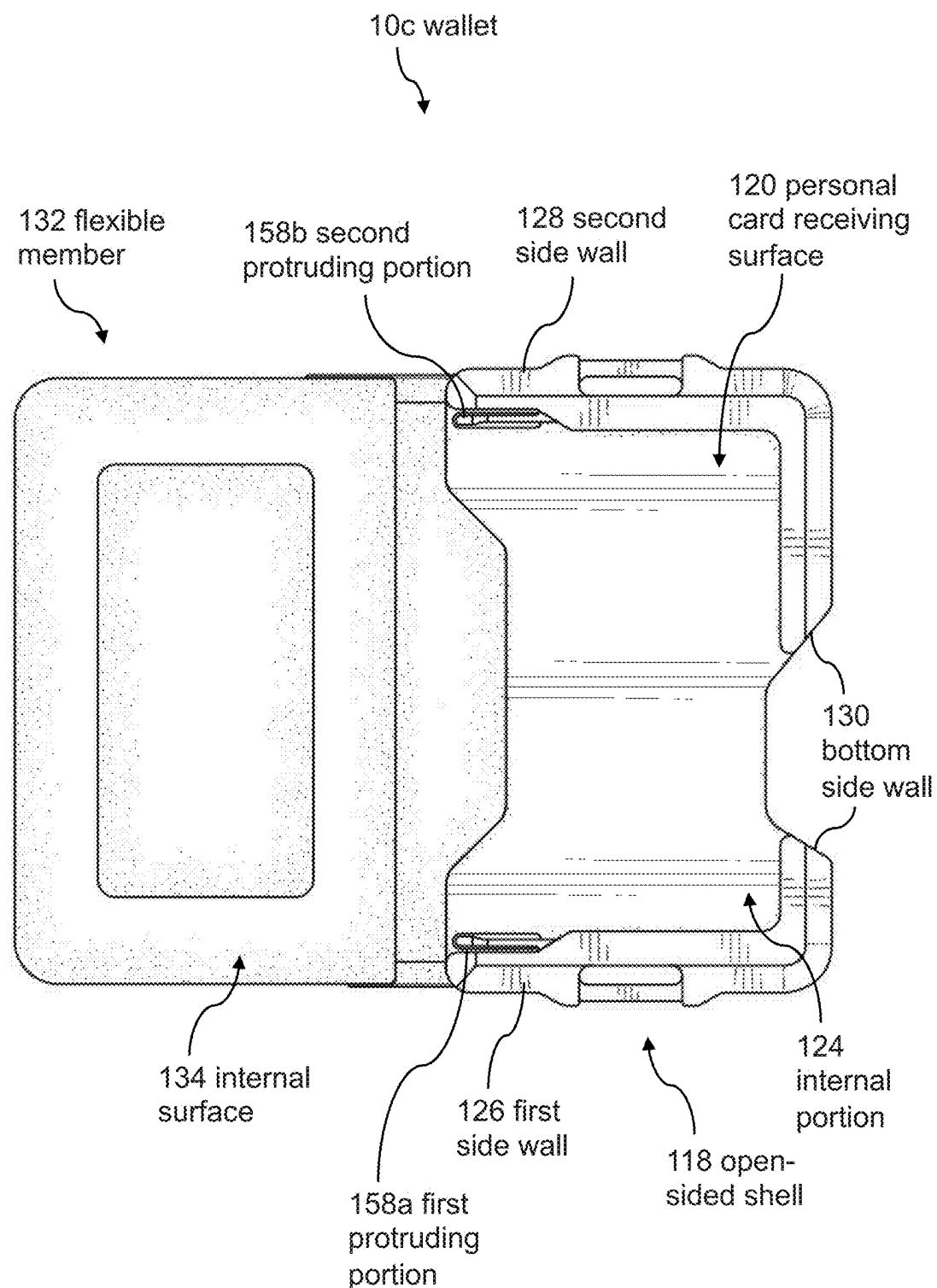


FIG. 43

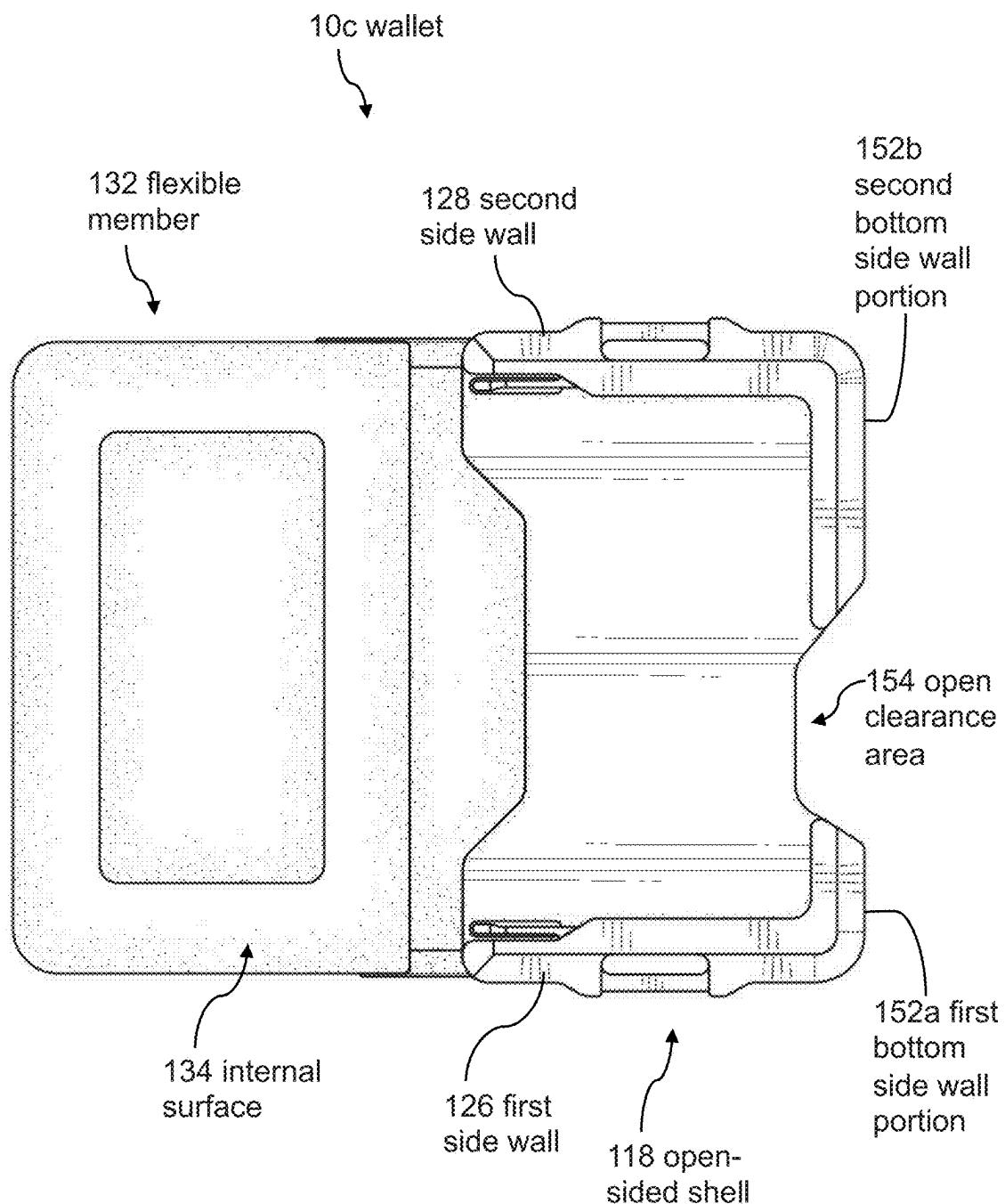


FIG. 44

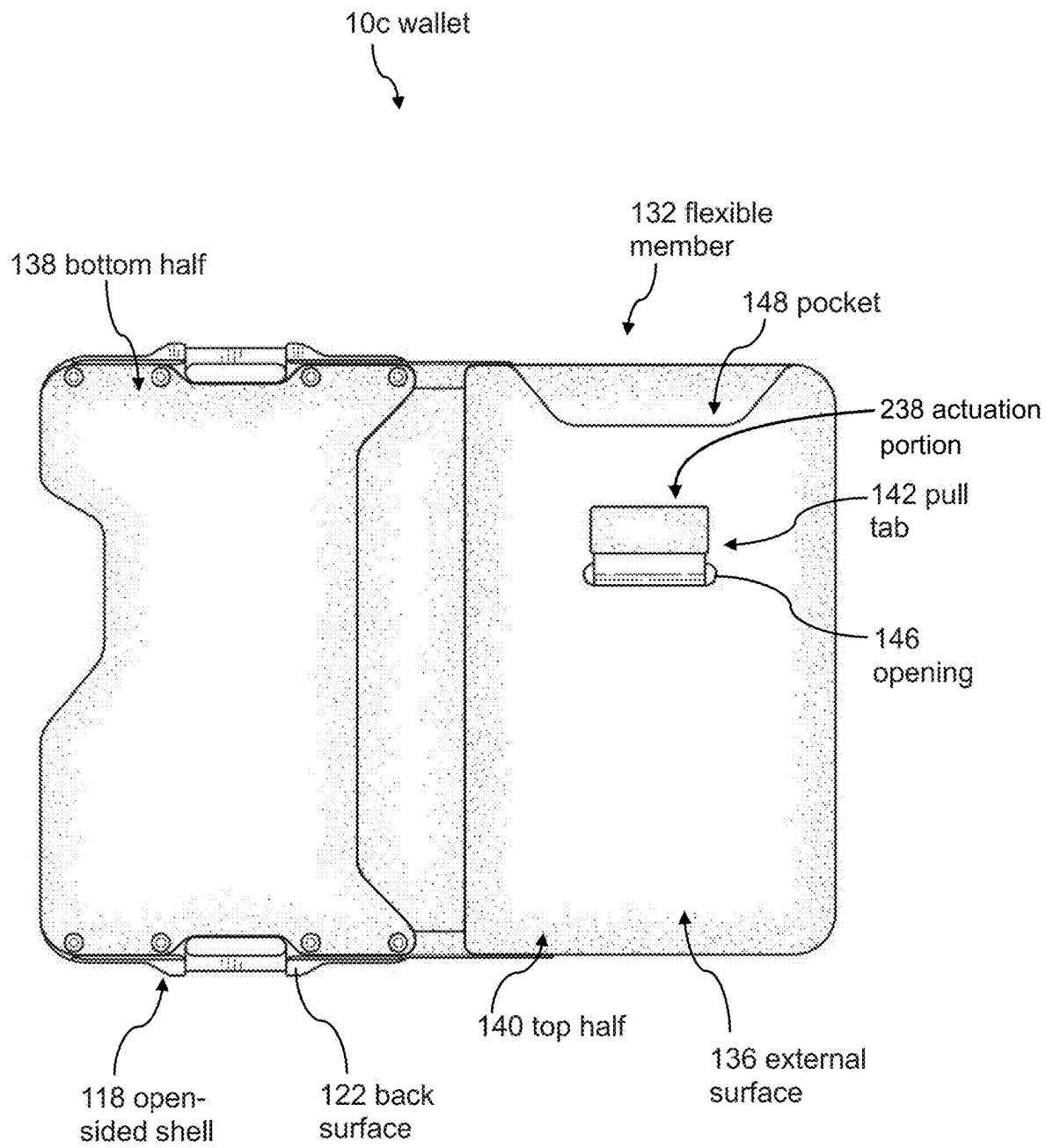


FIG. 45

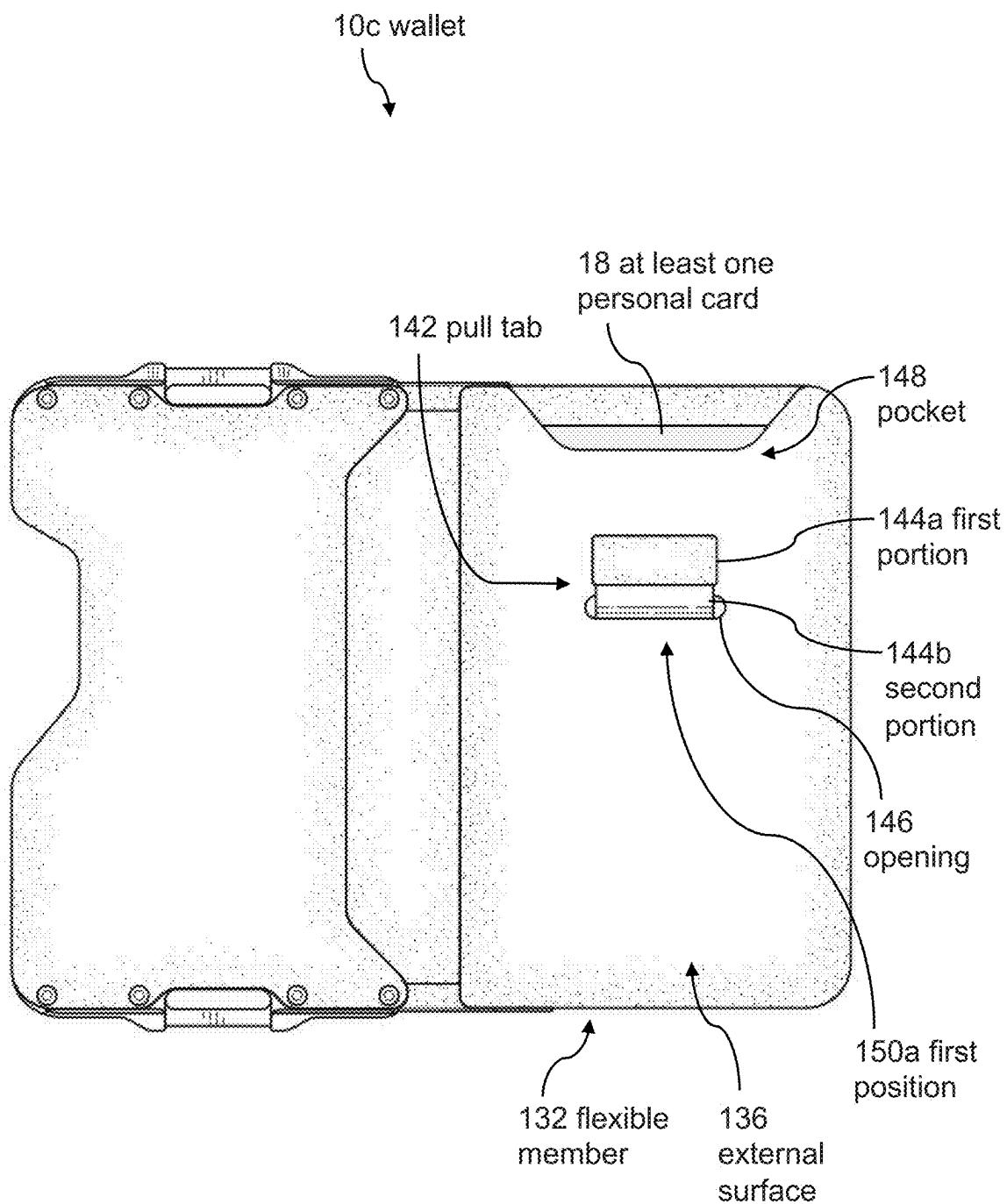


FIG. 46

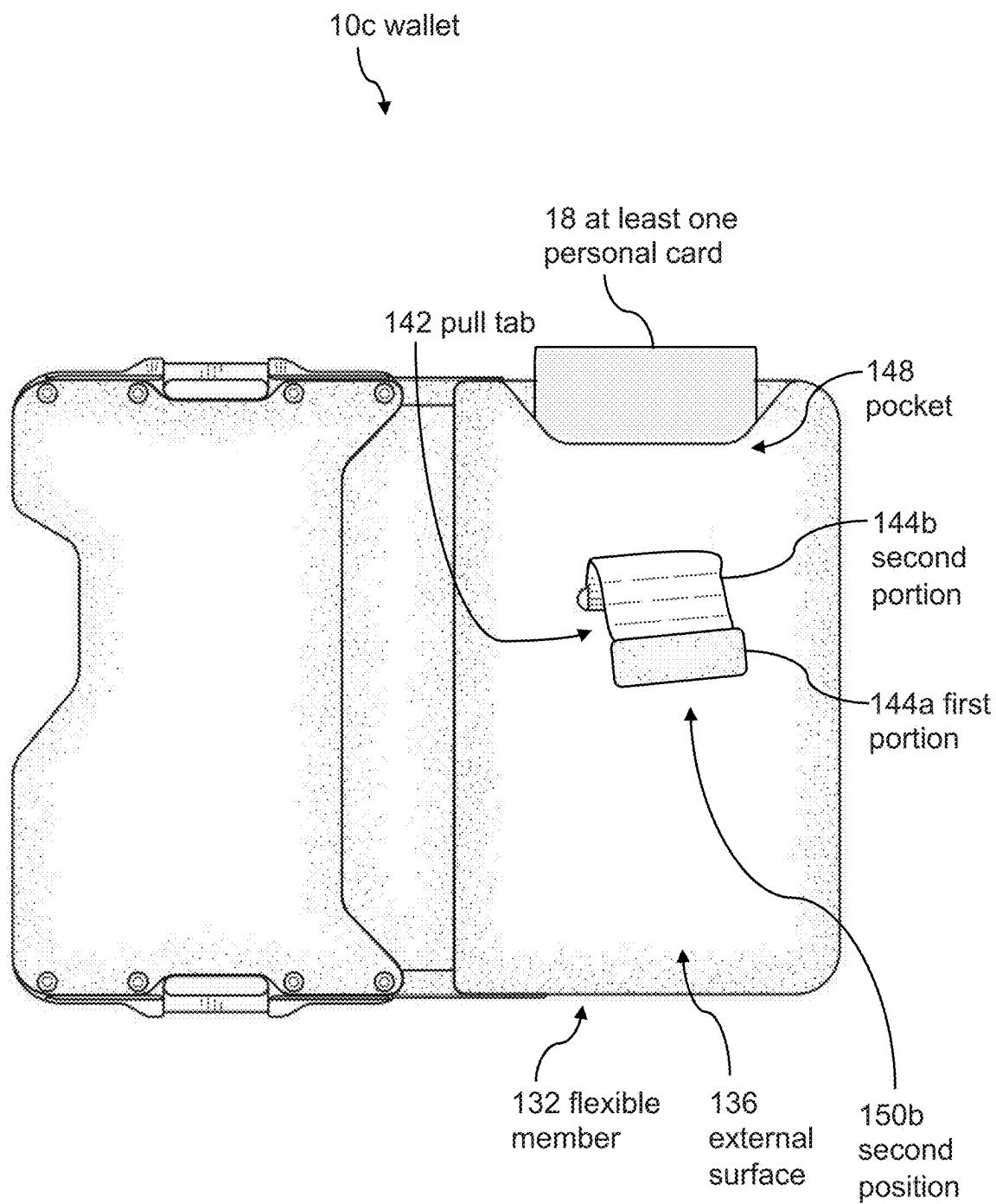


FIG. 47

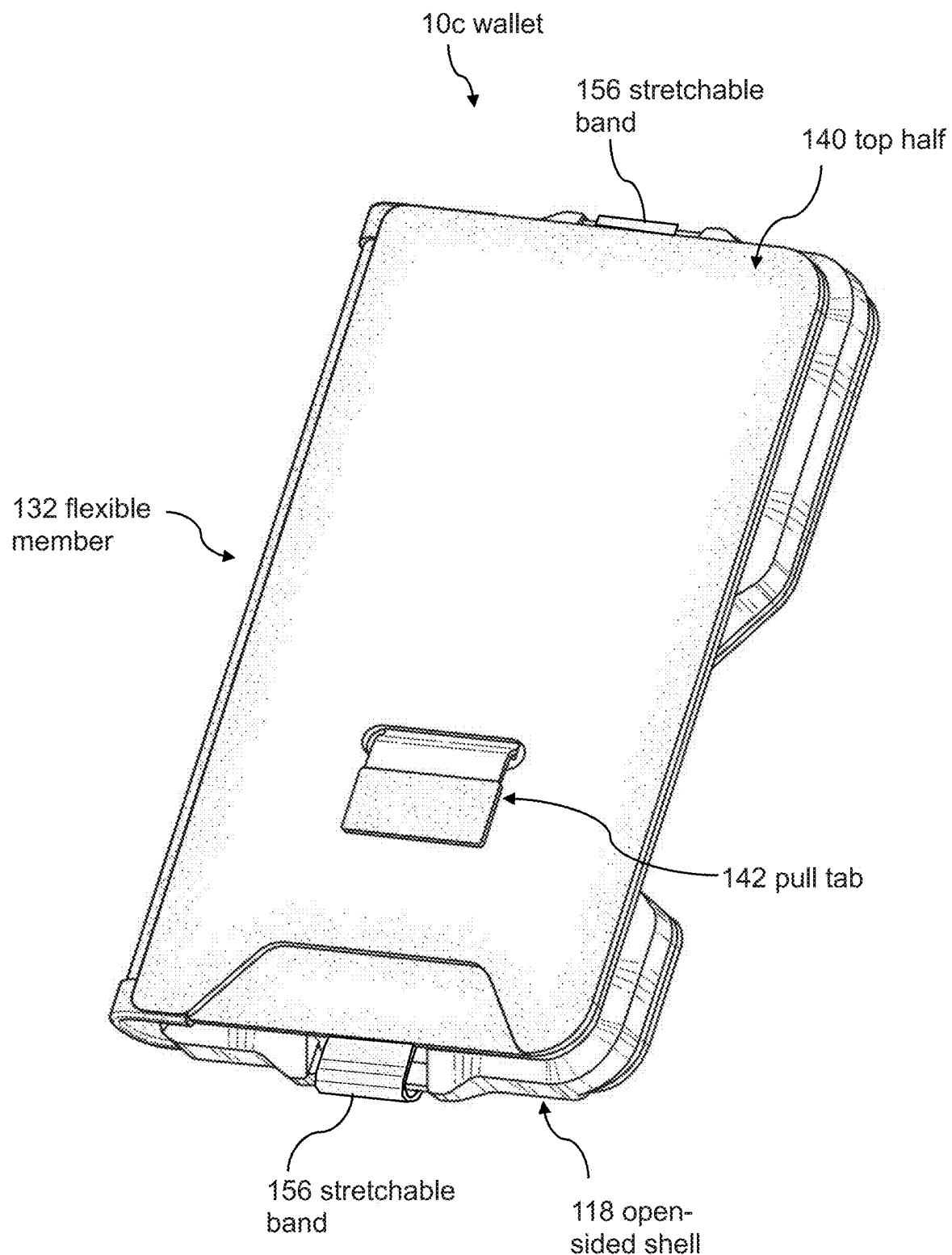


FIG. 48

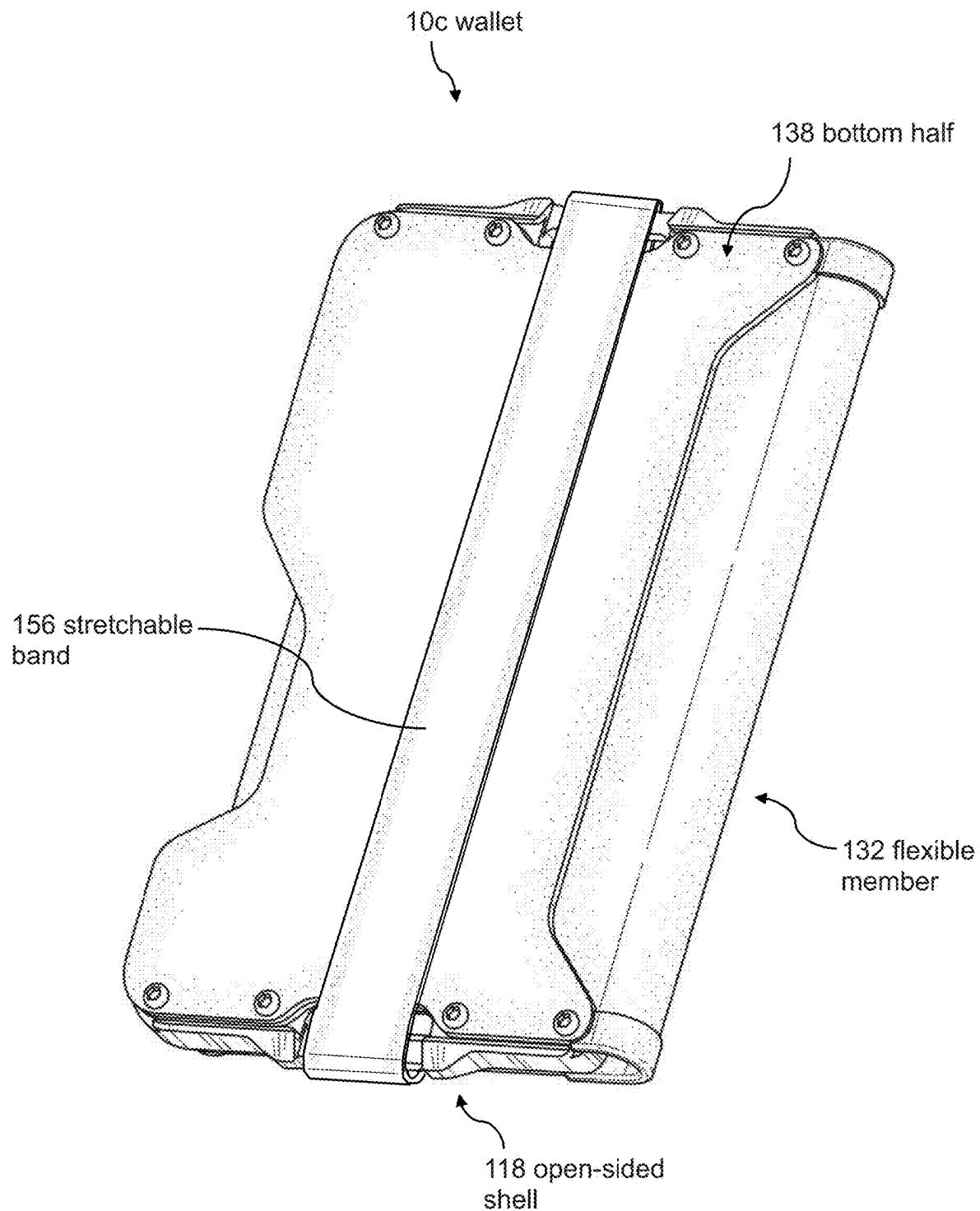


FIG. 49

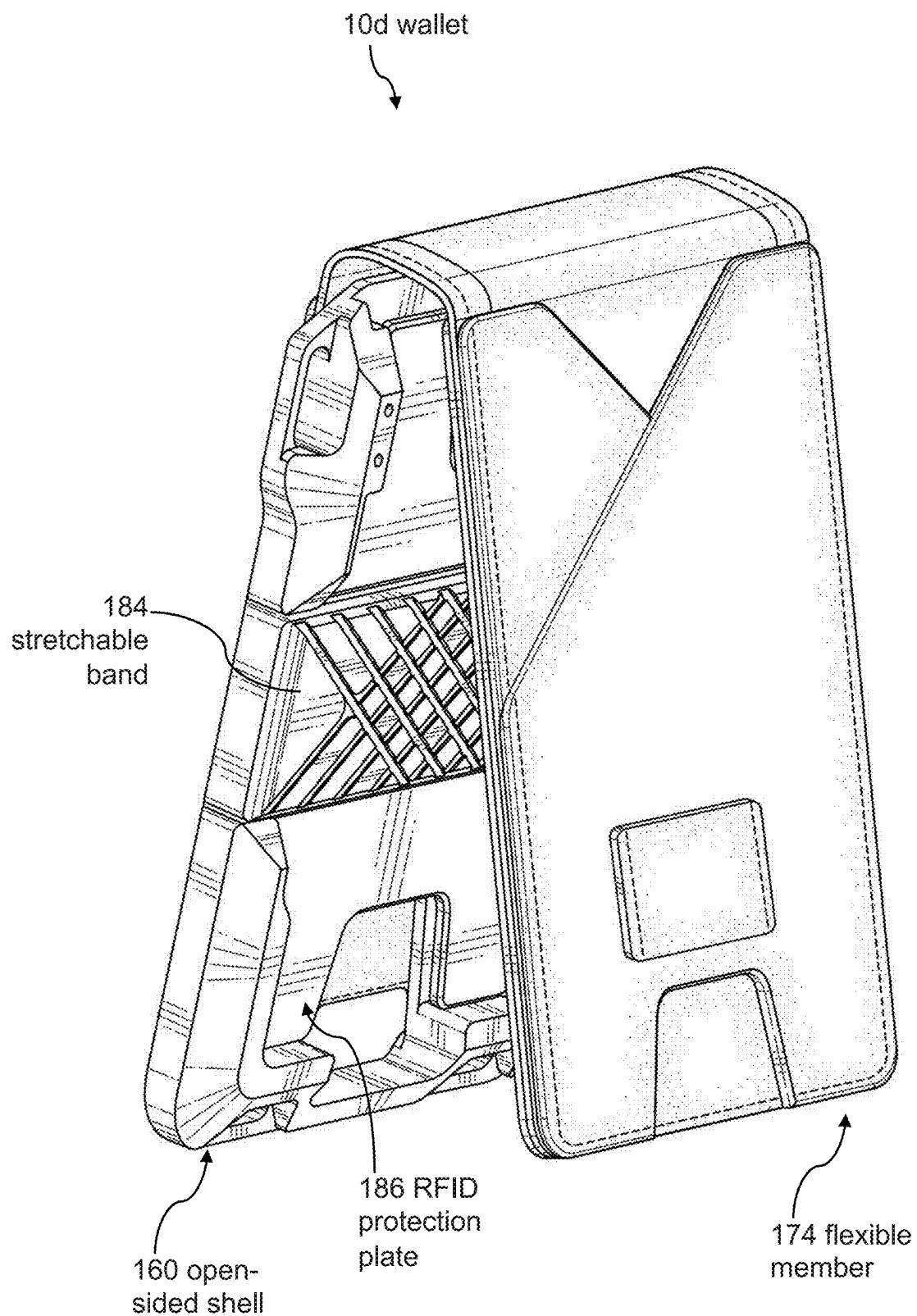


FIG. 50

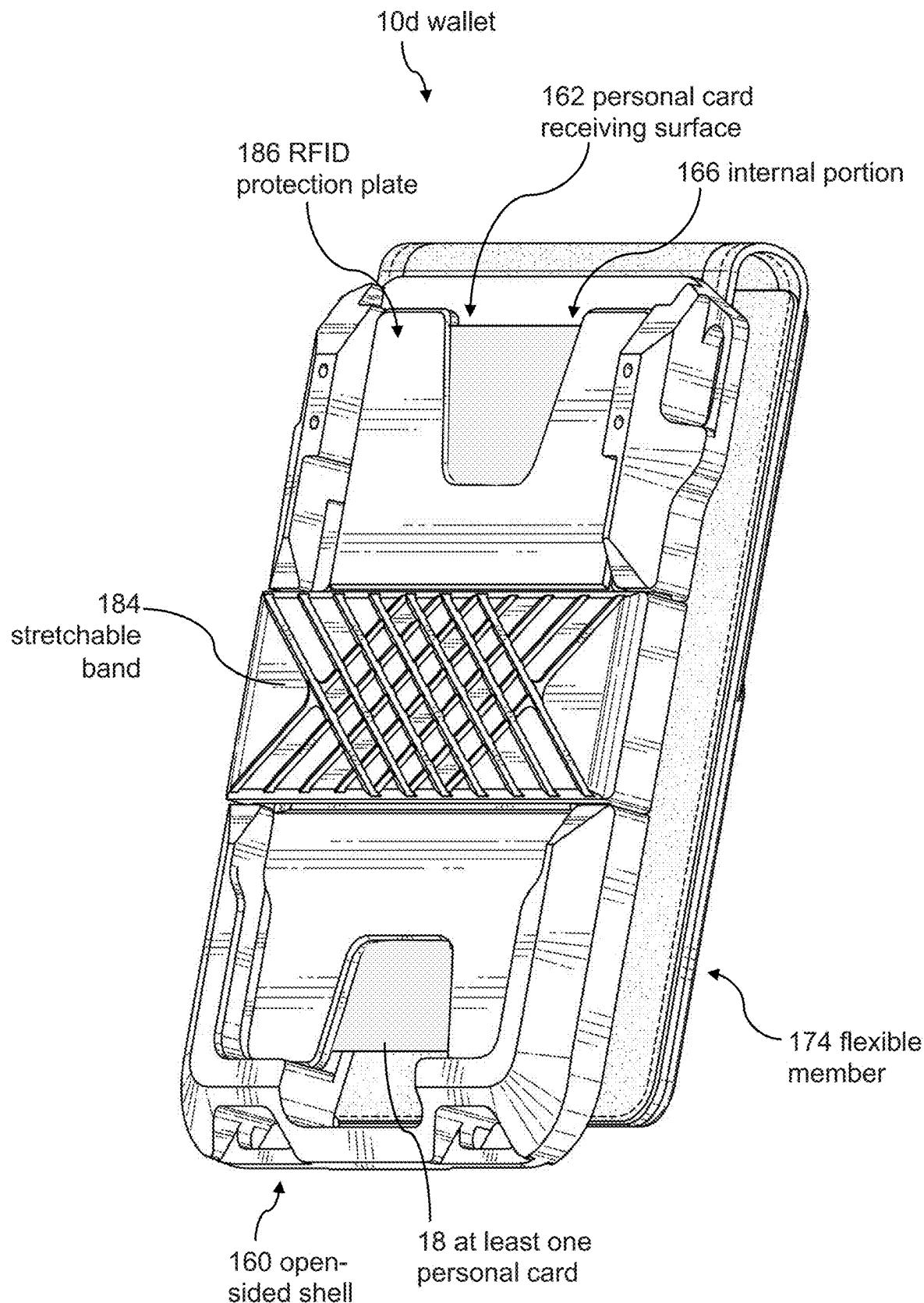


FIG. 51

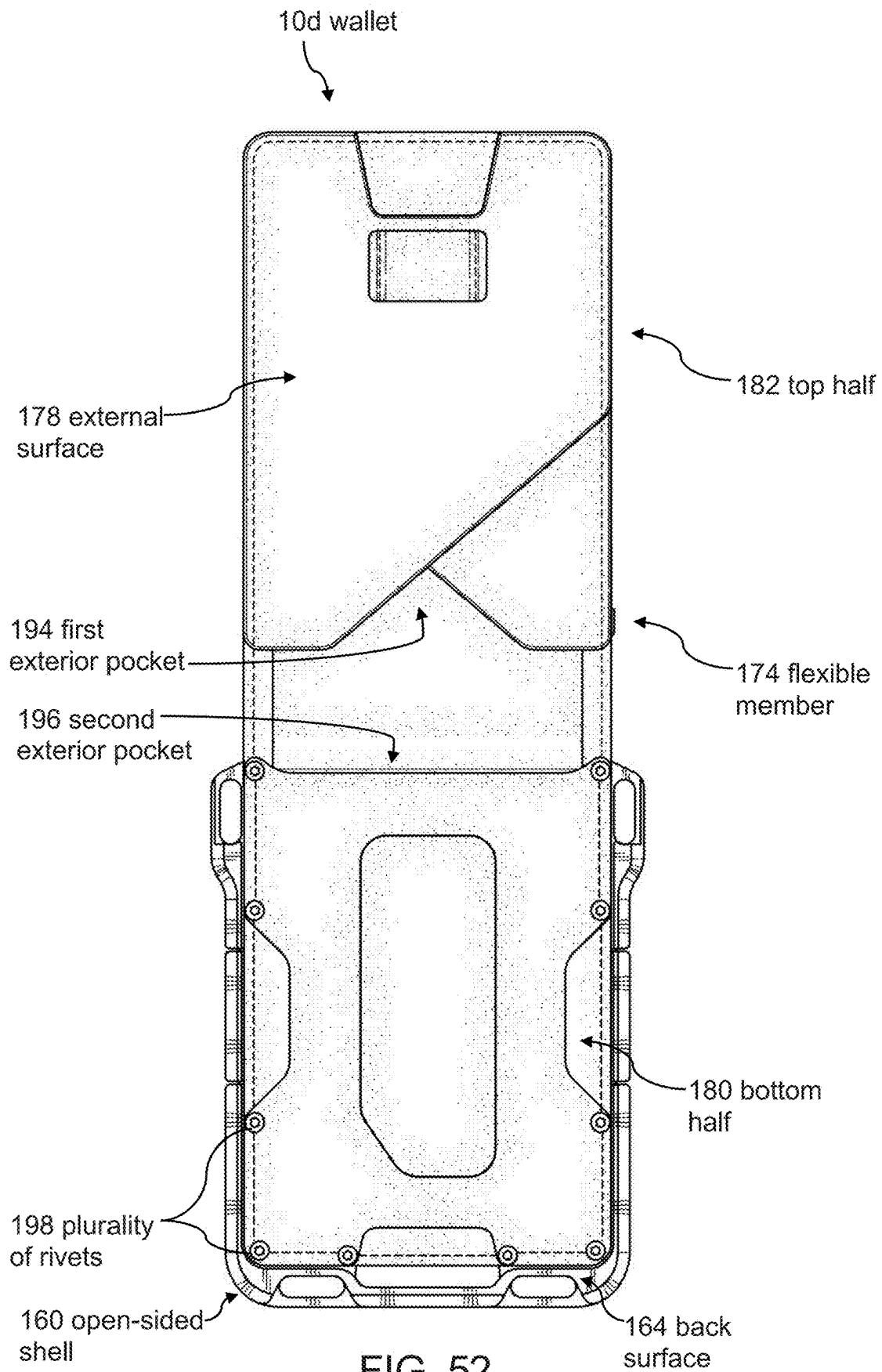


FIG. 52

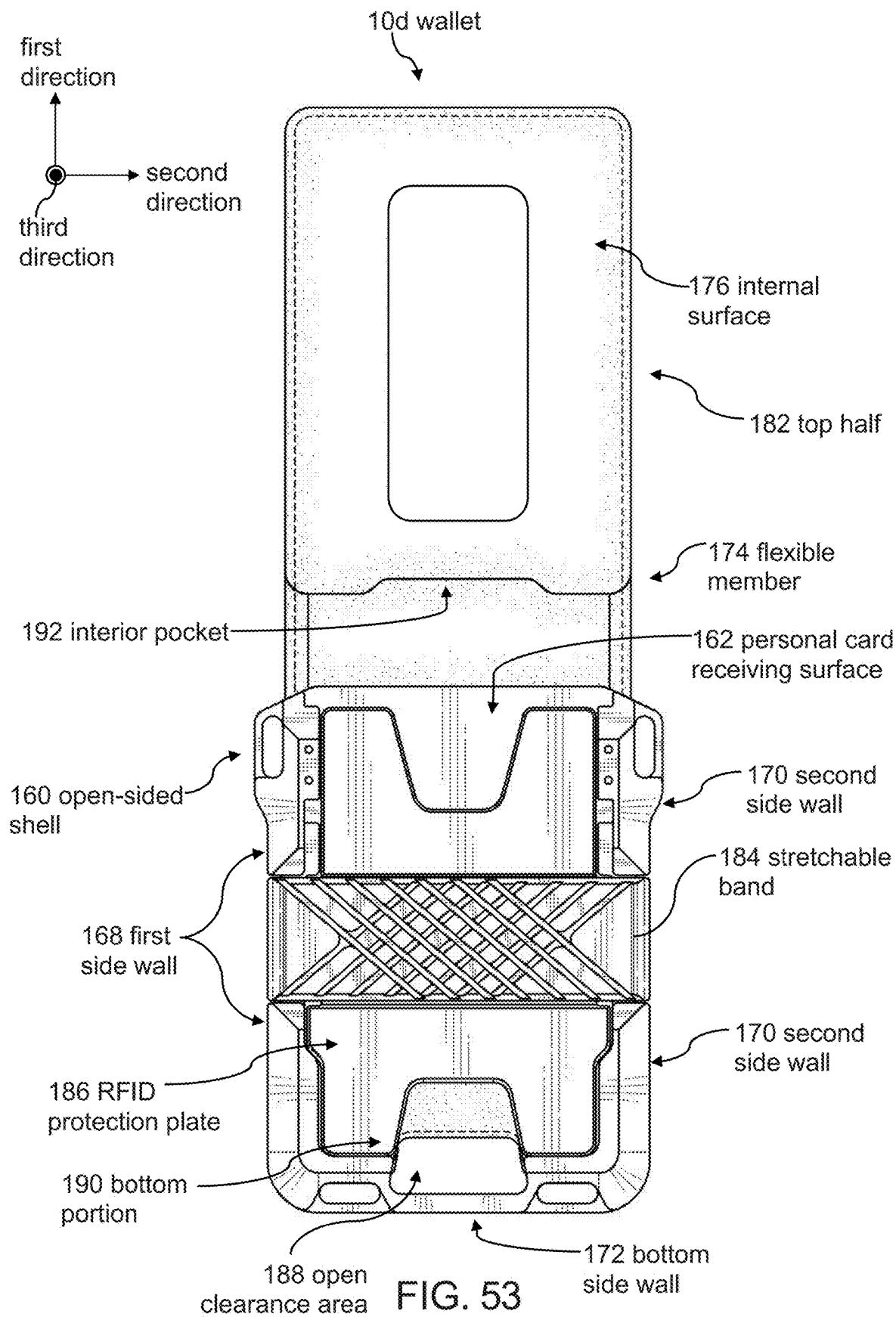


FIG. 53

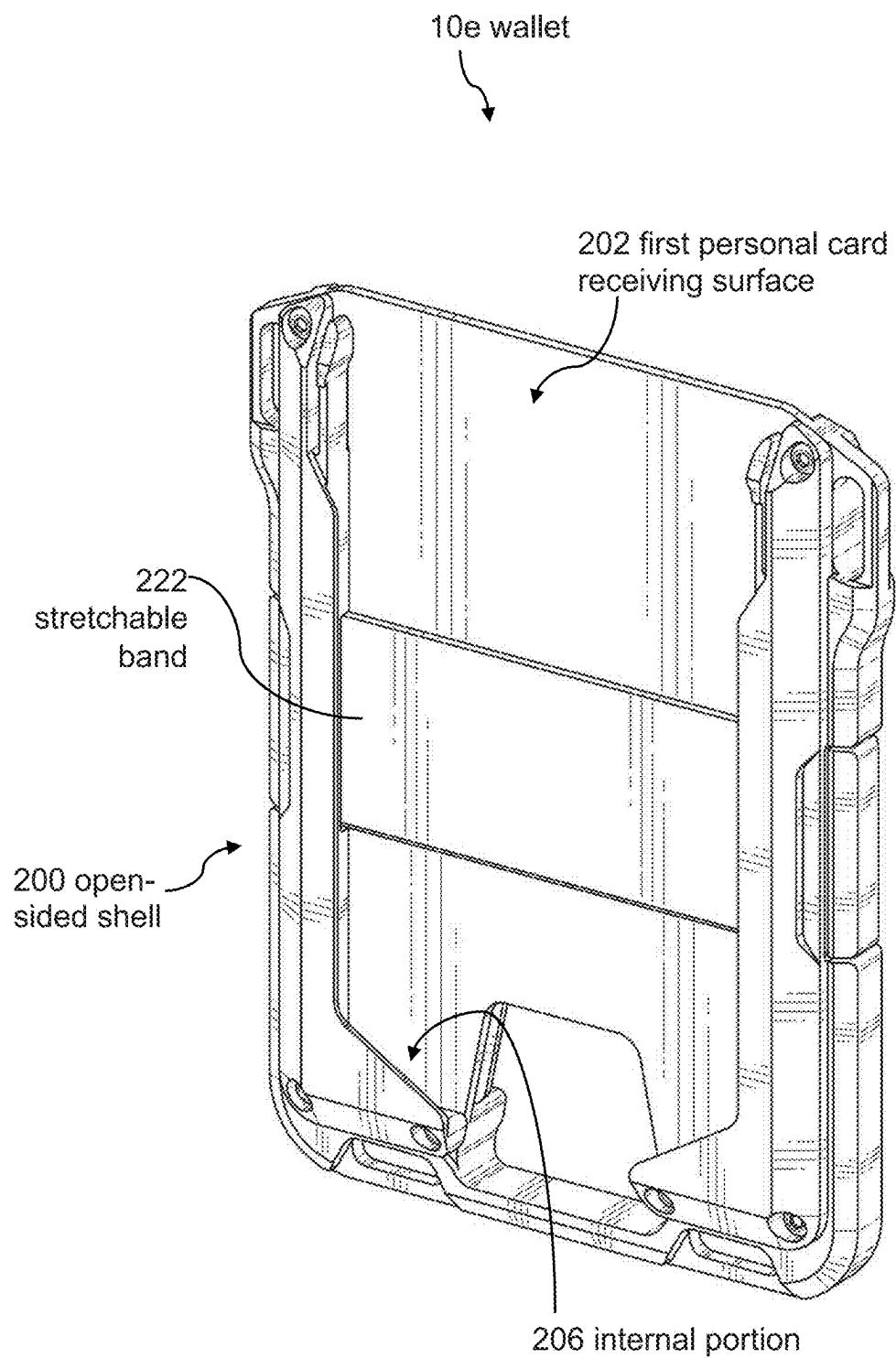


FIG. 54

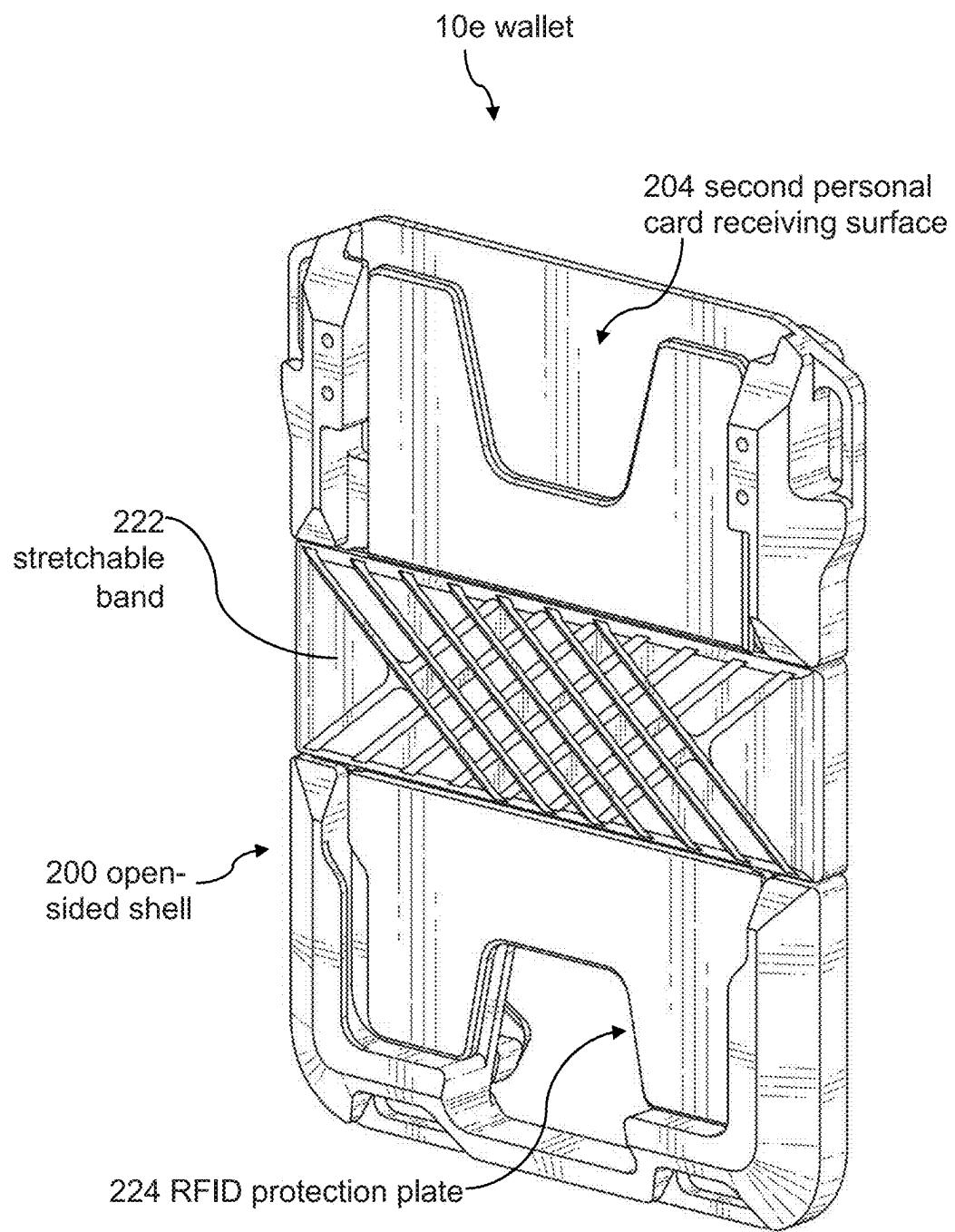


FIG. 55

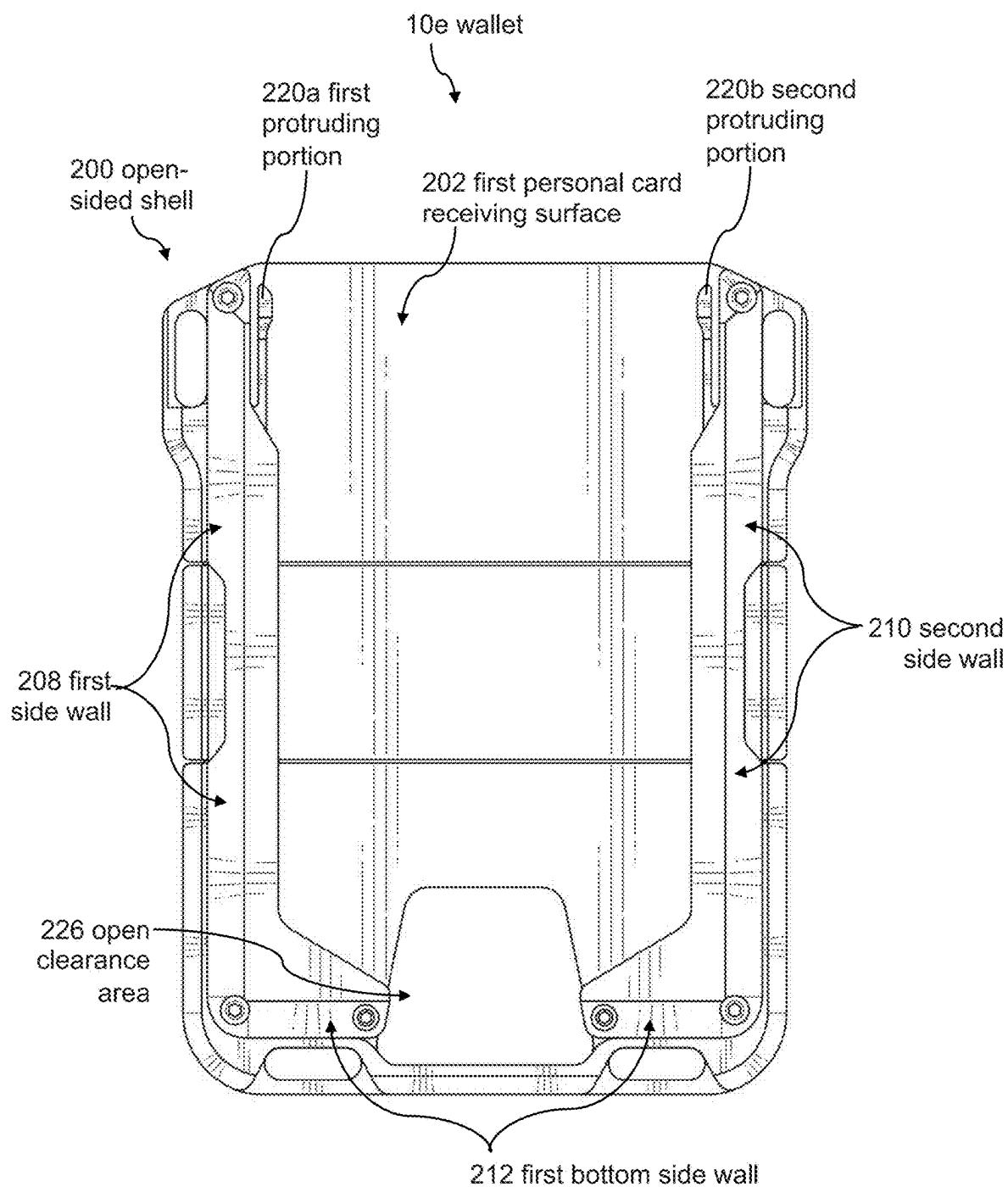


FIG. 56

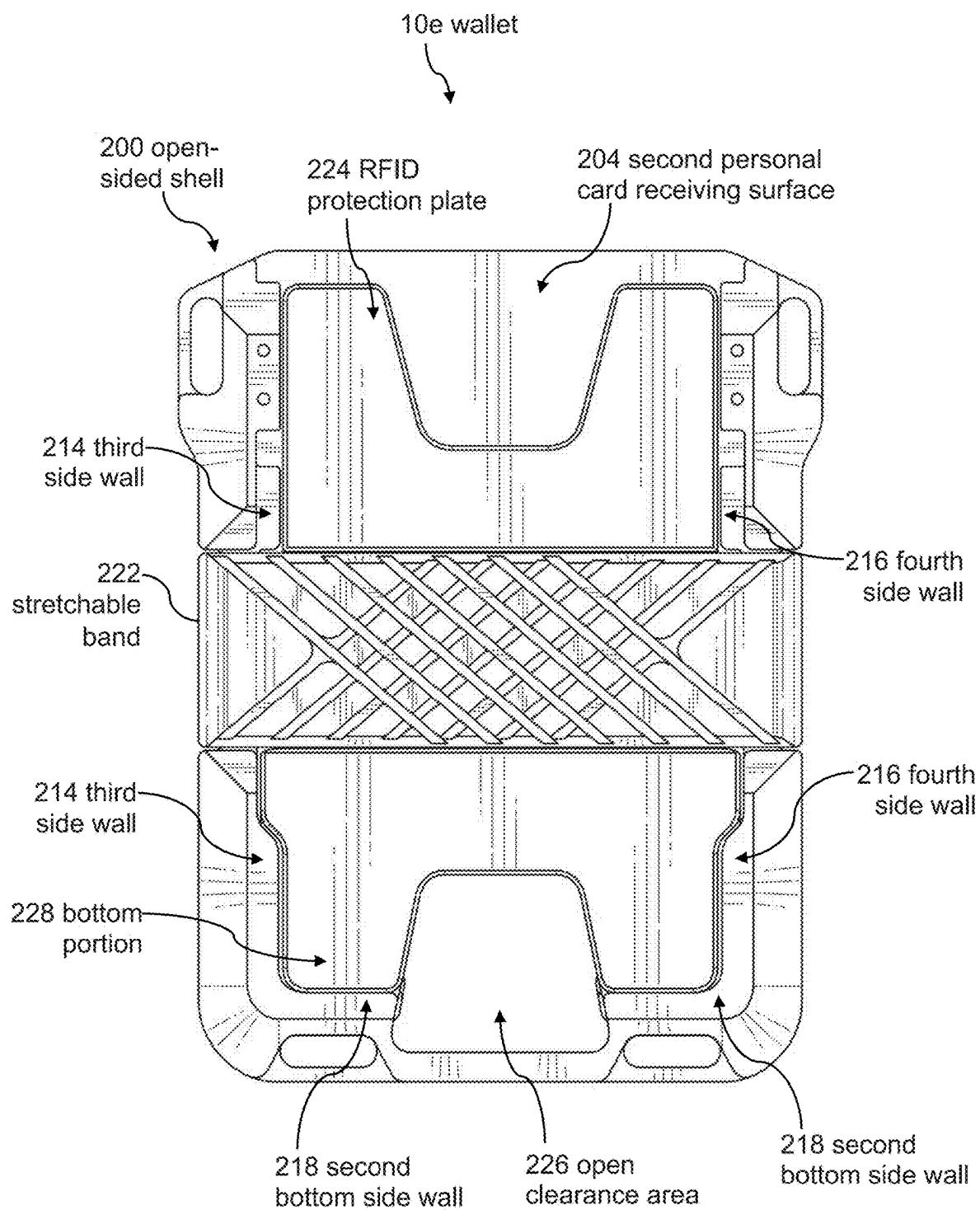


FIG. 57

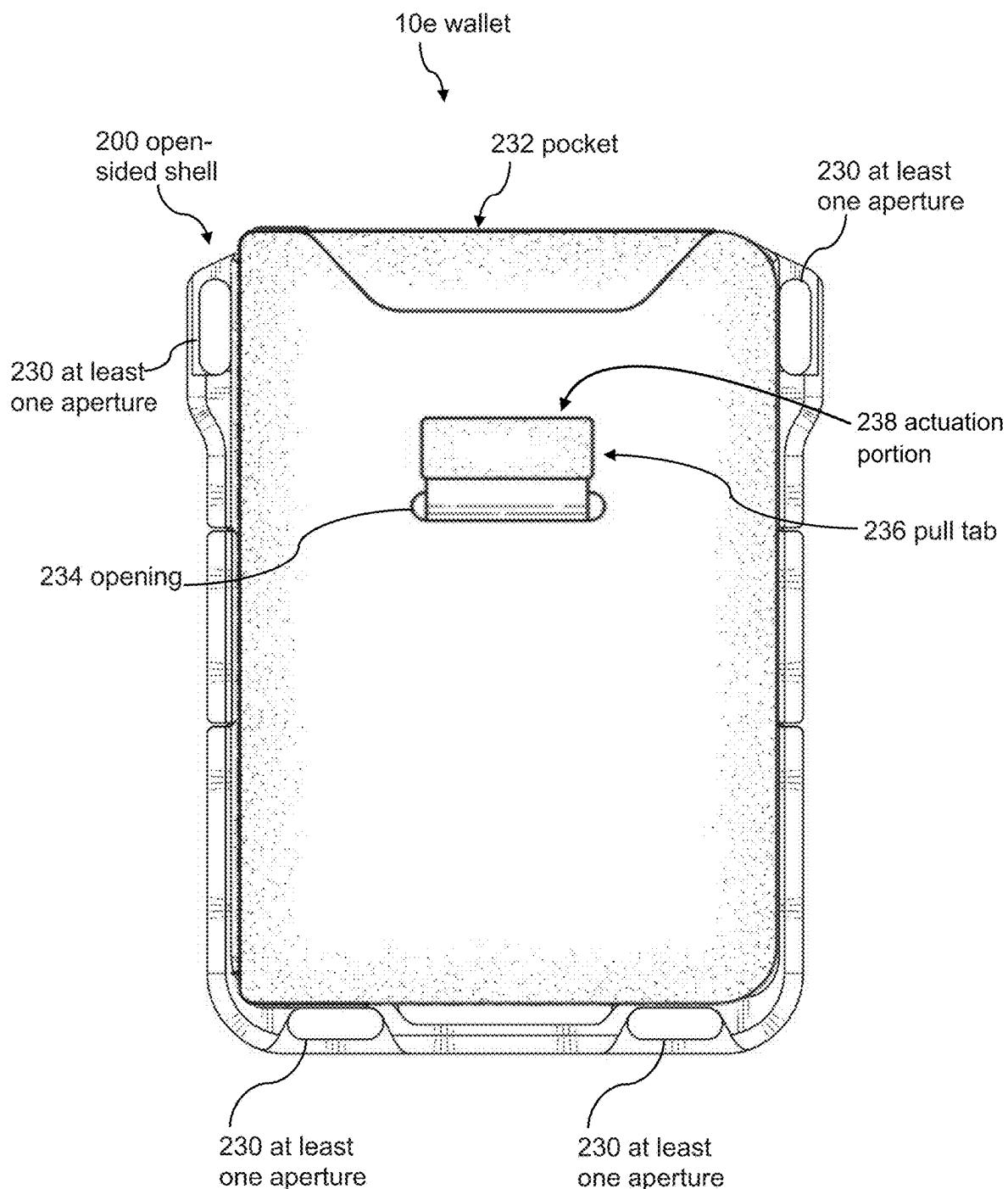


FIG. 58

WALLET WITH CARD HOLDING MECHANISMS

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The entire contents of the following application are incorporated by reference herein: U.S. application Ser. No. 18/478,962; filed Sep. 29, 2023; and entitled WALLET WITH CARD HOLDING MECHANISMS.

The entire contents of the following application are incorporated by reference herein: U.S. application Ser. No. 18/475,180; filed Sep. 26, 2022; and entitled WALLET WITH CARD HOLDING MECHANISMS.

The entire contents of the following application are incorporated by reference herein: U.S. application Ser. No. 18/304,175; filed Apr. 20, 2022; issued as U.S. Pat. No. 11,819,098 on Nov. 21, 2023; and entitled WALLET WITH CARD HOLDING MECHANISMS.

The entire contents of the following application are incorporated by reference herein: U.S. application Ser. No. 17/716,875; filed Apr. 8, 2022; issued as U.S. Pat. No. 11,653,729 on May 23, 2023; and entitled WALLET WITH CARD HOLDING MECHANISMS.

The entire contents of the following application are incorporated by reference herein: U.S. application Ser. No. 17/470,825; filed Sep. 9, 2021; issued as U.S. Pat. No. 11,337,498 on May 24, 2022; and entitled WALLET WITH CARD HOLDING MECHANISMS.

The entire contents of the following application are incorporated by reference herein: U.S. application Ser. No. 17/227,204; filed Apr. 9, 2021; issued as U.S. Pat. No. 11,178,947 on Nov. 23, 2021; and entitled WALLET WITH CARD HOLDING MECHANISMS.

The entire contents of the following application are incorporated by reference herein: U.S. application Ser. No. 16/250,310; filed Jan. 17, 2019; issued as U.S. Pat. No. 11,439,214 on Sep. 13, 2022; and entitled WALLET.

The entire contents of the following application are incorporated by reference herein: U.S. application Ser. No. 16/659,627; filed Oct. 22, 2019; issued as U.S. Pat. No. 11,571,050 on Feb. 7, 2023; and entitled WALLET.

BACKGROUND

Field

Various embodiments disclosed herein generally relate to wallets. More specifically, the present disclosure relates to wallets with a rail system, an elastic band, and at least one pocket.

Description of Related Art

Wallets are designed to carry articles such as credit cards, currency, business cards, pictures, identification cards (such as a driver's license or work ID), plus assorted other paper items. The most common type of wallet has a bifold design including one or more compartments and is made to be carried in a pocket or bag. Wallets are, in general, made from fabric and/or leather goods and sewn to form storage pockets. They may also utilize a metal clip of sorts intended to hold paper currency. These storage pockets are typically sewn to hold one, or a few, cards. Each pocket adds a layer of material, increasing the overall thickness of the wallet and limiting the number of cards a wallet can carry. As a result, typical wallets often become bulky in size and more difficult

and uncomfortable to carry, especially in a pocket. Traditional wallets may also stretch and loosen over time, leaving the credit and/or identification cards, currency, etc. vulnerable to being lost. There is therefore a need for an improved type of wallet to hold a high capacity of cards and currency while maintaining a slim profile.

SUMMARY

10 The disclosure includes a wallet comprising an open-sided shell having a personal card receiving surface and a back surface facing opposite the personal card receiving surface, the open-sided shell configured to securably couple at least one personal card along the personal card receiving surface within an internal portion of the open-sided shell. In many embodiments, the wallet further comprises a flexible member including an internal surface and an external surface facing opposite the internal surface, the flexible member defining a bottom half and a top half located opposite the bottom half, wherein the internal surface of the bottom half is coupled to the back surface of the open-sided shell. The wallet may include an elastic band having a first end coupled to a first side surface of the top half of the flexible member, and a second end located opposite the first end whereby the second end is coupled to a second side surface of the top half of the flexible member, the second side surface located opposite the first side surface. The elastic band may be configured to move between a first position whereby the elastic band wraps around the internal surface of the top half of the flexible member, and a second position whereby the elastic band wraps around the external surface of the top half of the flexible member.

In some embodiments, the wallet defines an open position, a closed position, and a clamshell position. When the wallet is in the open position, the flexible member may be configured to lay substantially flat such that the top half of the internal surface of the flexible member and the personal card receiving surface of the open-sided shell both substantially face a same direction, and the elastic band may be configured to be in at least one of the first position and the second position. When the wallet is in the closed position, the top half of the internal surface of the flexible member may be folded over the personal card receiving surface of the open-sided shell such that the top half of the internal surface of the flexible member faces the personal card receiving surface of the open-sided shell, and the elastic band may be configured to be in at least one of the first position and the second position. When the wallet is in the clamshell position, the top half of the internal surface of the flexible member may be folded over the personal card receiving surface of the open-sided shell such that the top half of the internal surface of the flexible member faces the personal card receiving surface of the open-sided shell, and when the wallet is in the clamshell position the elastic band may be configured to move to a third position whereby the elastic band wraps around the open-sided shell and the bottom half of the flexible member.

In many embodiments, the open-sided shell comprises a first side wall, a second side wall located opposite the first side wall, and a bottom side wall extending between the first side wall, the second side wall, and the bottom side wall are configured to retain the at least one personal card in place with respect to the personal card receiving surface. The first side wall may comprise a first retention tab configured to move away from the second side wall to thereby receive the at least one personal card, the first side wall defining a first

top portion and a first bottom portion located adjacent the bottom side wall, the first retention tab located adjacent the first top portion. The second side wall may comprise a second retention tab configured to move away from the first side wall to thereby receive the personal card, the second side wall defining a second top portion and a second bottom portion located adjacent the bottom side wall, the second retention tab located adjacent the second top portion. In some embodiments, the first retention tab comprises a first protruding portion configured to secure the at least one personal card in place with respect to the personal card receiving surface, the first protruding portion located adjacent the first top portion, and the second retention tab comprises a second protruding portion configured to secure the at least one personal card in place with respect to the personal card receiving surface, the second protruding portion located adjacent the second top portion.

The first retention tab and the second retention tab may be configured to move between a locked position and a receiving position, wherein when the first retention tab and the second retention tab are in the locked position the first retention tab and the second retention tab may be located a first distance from each other, wherein when the first retention tab and second retention tab are in the receiving position the first retention tab and the second retention tab may be located a second distance from each other, and wherein the first distance may be less than the second distance. In many embodiments, when the open-sided shell receives the at least one personal card, the first retention tab moves away from the second side wall and the second retention tab moves away from the first side wall to thereby receive the at least one personal card. When the open-sided shell securely couples the at least one personal card within the internal portion, the first retention tab may move towards the second side wall and the second retention tab may move towards the first side wall to thereby securely lock the at least one personal card within the internal portion of the open-sided shell. In many embodiments, the first retention tab defines a first cantilever arm physically spaced from a remaining portion of the first side wall, and the second retention tab defines a second cantilever arm physically spaced from a remaining portion of the second side wall.

In some embodiments, the bottom side wall comprises a first bottom side wall portion, a second bottom side wall portion, and an open clearance area located between the first bottom side wall portion and the second bottom side wall portion, whereby the open clearance area is configured to receive a user's finger to thereby push the at least one personal card away from the bottom side wall. The first bottom side wall portion may define a first width and the second bottom side wall portion may define a second width, wherein the second width may be greater than the first width.

The first side wall and the second side wall may be elongate along a first direction, and the bottom side wall may be elongate along a second direction perpendicular to the first direction. In some embodiments, the first side wall defines a first back portion located adjacent to the personal card receiving surface, and a first front portion located opposite the first back portion. The second side wall may define a second back portion located adjacent to the personal card receiving surface, and a second front portion located opposite the second back portion. In some embodiments, the bottom side wall defines a third back portion located adjacent to the personal card receiving surface, and a third front portion located opposite the third back portion. The open-sided shell may comprise a front retaining surface protruding along the second direction from the first front portion of

the first side wall, along the second direction from the second front portion of the second side wall, and along the first direction from the third front portion of the bottom side wall. The front retaining surface may be spaced from the personal card receiving surface.

In many embodiments, the front retaining surface extends around at least a portion of a perimeter of the personal card receiving surface, wherein the front retaining surface comprises a left side retaining surface and a right side retaining surface. The left side retaining surface may extend from a first location located below the first retention tab down along the first side wall to the first bottom portion of the first side wall and along the bottom side wall to a second location adjacent an open clearance area. The right side retaining surface may extend from a third location adjacent the open clearance area along the bottom side wall to the second bottom portion of the second side wall and up along the second side wall to a fourth location located below the second retention tab. In some embodiments, the second location of the left side retaining surface defines a first angle, and the third location of the right side retaining surface defines a second angle. The second angle may be greater than the first angle. In some embodiments, the left side retaining surface defines a left side height and a left side width, and the right side retaining surface defines a right side height and a right side width. The left side height and the right side height may be substantially equal, and the left side width may be less than the right side width.

In some embodiments, the at least one personal card comprises a front surface, a back surface located opposite the front surface, a first side edge, a second side edge located opposite the first side edge, a top edge, and a bottom edge located opposite the top edge. When the at least one personal card is securely coupled to the open-sided shell with the back surface facing the personal card receiving surface, the front retaining surface may be configured to cover at least a portion of the front surface along the first side edge, at least a portion of the front surface along the second side edge, and at least a portion of the front surface along the bottom edge.

The wallet may further comprise a first aperture located along a first side portion of the open-sided shell and a second aperture located along a second side portion of the open-sided shell, the first aperture located opposite the second aperture. When the wallet is in the clamshell position, the elastic band may wrap around the first aperture and the second aperture. In some embodiments, the first side wall and the second side wall are elongate along a first direction, and the bottom side wall is elongate along a second direction perpendicular to the first direction, and the elastic band wraps around at least one of the flexible member and the open-sided shell along the second direction.

The wallet may also include an identification window coupled to the top half of the flexible member and located along the internal surface of the flexible member, and the identification window may be configured to receive an identification card. When the elastic band is in the first position the elastic band may at least partially cover the identification window, and when the elastic band is in the second position the elastic band may not cover the identification window. In many embodiments, the identification window includes an aperture configured to allow a user to view and directly contact the internal surface of the flexible member located beneath the identification window.

In some embodiments, the internal portion of the open-sided shell defines an internal width measuring at least 3.375", and an internal height measuring at least 2.125". The

open-sided shell may define a first width, and the flexible member may define a second width that is less than the first width.

The disclosure includes a wallet comprising an open-sided shell having a personal card receiving surface and a back surface facing opposite the personal card receiving surface, the open-sided shell configured to securely couple at least one personal card along the personal card receiving surface within an internal portion of the open-sided shell. In some embodiments, the open-sided shell further comprises a first side wall, a second side wall located opposite the first side wall, and a bottom side wall extending between the first side wall and the second side wall, whereby the first side wall, the second side wall, and the bottom side wall are configured to retain the at least one personal card in place with respect to the personal card receiving surface. The wallet may also include a flexible member including an internal surface and an external surface facing opposite the internal surface, and the flexible member may define a bottom half and a top half located opposite the bottom half. In some embodiments, the internal surface of the bottom half is coupled to the back surface of the open-sided shell, and the internal surface of the top half is configured to retain and receive an identification card. The wallet may further comprise a pull tab coupled to the external surface of the flexible member and configured to extend from an opening in the external surface of the flexible member, and the pull tab may be configured to facilitate removal of the at least one personal card from a pocket coupled to the external surface of the flexible member.

In some embodiments, the bottom side wall comprises a first bottom side wall portion and a second bottom side wall portion, wherein the first bottom side wall portion defines a first width and the second bottom side wall portion defines a second width, wherein the second width is greater than the first width. The wallet may further comprise an open clearance area located along a bottom portion of the open-sided shell, and the open clearance area may be configured to receive a user's finger to thereby push the at least one personal card away from the bottom portion such that the at least one personal card may be removed from the wallet. In some embodiments, the open clearance area is located between the first bottom side wall portion and the second bottom side wall portion.

The wallet may further comprise a stretchable band configured to wrap around the open-sided shell and the bottom half of the flexible member, and the stretchable band may be configured to securely couple at least one personal card against at least one of the personal card receiving surface and the external surface of the flexible member. In some embodiments, the first side wall comprises a first aperture and a second aperture, the first aperture configured to receive an attaching mechanism to thereby couple the wallet to at least one of a key, a lanyard, and a tether, and the second side wall comprises a third aperture, the second aperture and the third aperture configured to receive the stretchable band.

In some embodiments, the wallet includes a first protruding portion and a second protruding portion. The first protruding portion may be coupled to the first side wall and may be configured to move away from the second side wall to thereby receive the at least one personal card. In some embodiments, the first side wall defines a first top portion and a first bottom portion located adjacent the bottom side wall, and the first protruding portion is located adjacent the first top portion. The second protruding portion may be coupled to the second side wall and may be configured to

move away from the first side wall to thereby receive the at least one personal card. In some embodiments, the second side wall defines a second top portion and a second bottom portion located adjacent the bottom side wall, and the second protruding portion is located adjacent the second top portion. The first protruding portion and the second protruding portion may be configured to move between a locked position and a receiving position. In some embodiments, when the first protruding portion and the second protruding portion are in the locked position, the first protruding portion and the second protruding portion are located a first distance from each other. When the first protruding portion and second protruding portion are in the receiving position, the first protruding portion and the second protruding portion may be located a second distance from each other. In some embodiments, the first distance is less than the second distance.

In some embodiments, the pull tab defines a first portion and a second portion, and the pull tab is configured to move between a first position and a second position. In the first position, the first portion of the pull tab may be configured to extend from the opening in the external surface of the flexible member and the second portion of the pull tab may be located at least partially within the flexible member, and the at least one personal card may be located within the pocket. In the second position, the first portion of the pull tab and the second portion of the pull tab may be configured to extend from the opening in the external surface of the flexible member, and the at least one personal card may be configured to at least partially extend from the pocket.

The disclosure includes a wallet comprising an open-sided shell having a personal card receiving surface and a back surface facing opposite the personal card receiving surface, the open-sided shell configured to securely couple at least one personal card along the personal card receiving surface within an internal portion of the open-sided shell. In some embodiments, the open-sided shell comprises a first side wall, a second side wall located opposite the first side wall, and a bottom side wall extending between the first side wall and the second side wall, whereby the first side wall, the second side wall, and the bottom side wall are configured to retain the at least one personal card in place with respect to the personal card receiving surface.

The wallet may further comprise a flexible member including an internal surface and an external surface facing opposite the internal surface. In some embodiments, the flexible member defines a bottom half and a top half located opposite the bottom half, wherein the internal surface of the bottom half may be coupled to the back surface of the open-sided shell. The wallet may also include a stretchable band configured to wrap around the open-sided shell and the bottom half of the flexible member, and the stretchable band may be configured to securely couple at least one personal card against at least one of the personal card receiving surface and the external surface of the flexible member. In some embodiments, the wallet further comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) protection plate coupled to the open-sided shell, wherein the RFID protection plate is located between the personal card receiving surface and the stretchable band.

The first side wall and the second side wall may be elongate along a first direction, and the bottom side wall may be elongate along a second direction perpendicular to the first direction. In some embodiments, the stretchable band wraps around the open-sided shell and the bottom half of the flexible member along the second direction. The RFID protection plate may be configured to move along a third

direction perpendicular to the first direction and the second direction to securely couple the at least one personal card between the RFID protection plate and the personal card receiving surface. In some embodiments, the stretchable band is configured to extend along the third direction to couple at least one of at least one personal card and at least one paper bill between the stretchable band and the bottom half of the flexible member.

At least one of the open-sided shell and the RFID protection plate may comprise an open clearance area located along a bottom portion of at least one of the open-sided shell and the RFID protection plate. In some embodiments, the open clearance area is configured to receive a user's finger to thereby push the at least one personal card away from the bottom portion such that the at least one personal card may be removed from the wallet.

The wallet may further comprise an interior pocket coupled to the top half of the flexible member and located along the internal surface of the flexible member, and the interior pocket may be configured to receive and retain the at least one personal card. In some embodiments, the wallet includes a first exterior pocket coupled to the top half of the flexible member and located along the external surface of the flexible member opposite the interior pocket, the first exterior pocket configured to receive and retain the at least one personal card. The wallet may also include a second exterior pocket coupled to the bottom half of the flexible member and located along the external surface of the flexible member opposite the open-sided shell, the second exterior pocket configured to receive and retain the at least one personal card. In some embodiments, the interior pocket and the first exterior pocket are coupled to the top half of the flexible member via stitching extending along a perimeter of the top half of the flexible member, and the second exterior pocket is coupled to the flexible member via stitching and is coupled to the open-sided shell via a plurality of rivets, wherein the stitching and the plurality of rivets extend around a perimeter of the bottom half of the flexible member.

The disclosure includes a wallet comprising an open-sided shell having a first personal card receiving surface and a second personal card receiving surface facing opposite the first personal card receiving surface. The open-sided shell may be configured to securely couple at least one personal card along the first personal card receiving surface and the second personal card receiving surface within an internal portion of the open-sided shell. In some embodiments, the first personal card receiving surface comprises a first side wall, a second side wall located opposite the first side wall, and a first bottom side wall extending between the first side wall and the second side wall, whereby the first side wall, the second side wall, and the first bottom side wall are configured to retain the at least one personal card in place with respect to the first personal card receiving surface.

The wallet may further comprise a first protruding portion coupled to the first side wall and configured to move away from the second side wall to thereby receive the at least one personal card. In some embodiments, the first side wall defines a first top portion and a first bottom portion located adjacent the first bottom side wall, and the first protruding portion is located adjacent the first top portion. The wallet may also include a second protruding portion coupled to the second side wall and configured to move away from the first side wall to thereby receive the at least one personal card. In some embodiments, the second side wall defines a second top portion and a second bottom portion located adjacent the bottom side wall, and the second protruding portion is

located adjacent the second top portion. The second personal card receiving surface may comprise a third side wall, a fourth side wall located opposite the third side wall, and a second bottom side wall extending between the third side wall and the fourth side wall.

In some embodiments, the wallet includes a stretchable band configured to wrap around the open-sided shell, the stretchable band configured to securely couple at least one personal card against at least one of the first personal card receiving surface and the second personal card receiving surface. The wallet may further comprise a radio frequency identification (RFID) protection plate coupled to the open-sided shell, wherein the RFID protection plate may be located between the second personal card receiving surface and the stretchable band, and wherein the RFID protection plate may be configured to securely couple the at least one personal card between the RFID protection plate and the second personal card receiving surface. In some embodiments, at least one of the open-sided shell and the RFID protection plate comprises an open clearance area located along a bottom portion of at least one of the open-sided shell and the RFID protection plate. The open clearance area may be configured to receive a user's finger to thereby push the at least one personal card away from the bottom portion such that the at least one personal card may be removed from the wallet.

The wallet may further comprise at least one aperture located along a perimeter of the open-sided shell, and the at least one aperture may be configured to receive an attaching mechanism to thereby couple the wallet to at least one of a key, a lanyard, and a tether. In some embodiments, the wallet also includes a pocket configured to receive the at least one personal card, the pocket configured to detachably couple to the open-sided shell adjacent the second personal card receiving surface. The pocket may comprise an opening configured to receive a pull tab, wherein the pull tab may be configured to facilitate removal of the at least one personal card from the pocket.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

These and other features, aspects, and advantages are described below with reference to the drawings, which are intended to illustrate, but not to limit, the invention. In the drawings, like reference characters denote corresponding features consistently throughout similar embodiments.

FIG. 1A illustrates a perspective view of a wallet in open position, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 1B illustrates a perspective view of a wallet in a clamshell position, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 1C illustrates a perspective view of a wallet in open position, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 1D illustrates a perspective view of a wallet in a clamshell position, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 2 illustrates a perspective view of a wallet in a clamshell position, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 illustrate perspective views of a wallet in an open position, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 9 and 10 illustrate perspective views of a wallet in a clamshell position and a closed position, respectively, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 11 illustrates a front interior view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18 illustrate front interior views of a wallet and at least one personal card, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 19 illustrates a front interior view of a wallet including a first side wall and a second side wall, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 20 illustrates a front interior view of a wallet including a bottom side wall, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 21 illustrates a cross-sectional view of a first side wall of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 22 illustrates a cross-sectional view of a second side wall of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 23 illustrates a cross-sectional view of a bottom side wall of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 24 illustrates a front interior view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 25A illustrates a left side height and a right side height of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 25B illustrates a left side width and a right side width of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 26 illustrates a partial front view of a wallet, including an inset view of an open clearance area, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 27 illustrates a back exterior view of a wallet in an open position, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 28 illustrates a top half of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 29 illustrates a bottom half of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 30 illustrates a bottom view of a wallet in a clamshell position, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 31 and 32 illustrate side views of a wallet in a clamshell position, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 33 illustrates a bottom view of a wallet in an open position, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 34 and 35 illustrate side views of a wallet in an open position, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 36 illustrates a front perspective view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 37 illustrates a back perspective view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 38, 39, and 40 illustrate front views of a wallet and at least one personal card, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 41 illustrates a back view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 42 illustrates a perspective view of an open wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 43 and 44 illustrate interior views of an open wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIGS. 45, 46, and 47 illustrate exterior views of an open wallet including a pull tab, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 48 illustrates a front perspective view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 49 illustrates a back perspective view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 50 illustrates an exterior and partial interior perspective view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 51 illustrates an interior perspective view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 52 illustrates an exterior view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 53 illustrates an interior view of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 54 illustrates a perspective view of one side of a wallet, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 55 illustrates a perspective view of another side of the wallet of FIG. 54, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 56 illustrates the side of the wallet shown in FIG. 54, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 57 illustrates the side of the wallet shown in FIG. 55, according to some embodiments.

FIG. 58 illustrates a wallet including a pocket, according to some embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Although certain embodiments and examples are disclosed below, inventive subject matter extends beyond the specifically disclosed embodiments to other alternative embodiments and/or uses, and to modifications and equivalents thereof. Thus, the scope of the claims appended hereto is not limited by any of the particular embodiments described below. For example, in any method or process disclosed herein, the acts or operations of the method or process may be performed in any suitable sequence and are not necessarily limited to any particular disclosed sequence. Various operations may be described as multiple discrete operations in turn, in a manner that may be helpful in understanding certain embodiments; however, the order of description should not be construed to imply that these operations are order dependent. Additionally, the structures, systems, and/or devices described herein may be embodied as integrated components or as separate components.

For purposes of comparing various embodiments, certain aspects and advantages of these embodiments are described. Not necessarily all such aspects or advantages are achieved by any particular embodiment. Thus, for example, various embodiments may be carried out in a manner that achieves or optimizes one advantage or group of advantages as taught herein without necessarily achieving other aspects or advantages as may also be taught or suggested herein.

REFERENCE NUMERALS

- 10—wallet
- 12—open-sided shell
- 13—open-sided shell
- 14—personal card receiving surface
- 15—personal card receiving surface
- 16—back surface
- 17—back surface
- 18—at least one personal card
- 20—internal portion (of open-sided shell)
- 21—internal portion (of open-sided shell)
- 22—flexible member
- 24—internal surface (of flexible member)
- 26—external surface (of flexible member)
- 28—bottom half (of flexible member)
- 30—top half (of flexible member)
- 32—elastic band
- 34a—first end (of elastic band)
- 34b—second end (of elastic band)
- 36a—first side surface (top half of flexible member)
- 36b—second side surface (top half of flexible member)
- 38—first position (of elastic band)
- 40—second position (of elastic band)
- 42—third position (of elastic band)
- 44—open position (wallet)
- 46—closed position (wallet)
- 48—clamshell position (wallet)
- 50a—first side wall
- 50b—second side wall
- 50c—bottom side wall
- 51a—first side wall
- 51b—second side wall
- 51c—bottom side wall

11

- 52a—first retention tab
 52b—second retention tab
 53a—first retention tab
 53b—second retention tab
 54a—first top portion (first side wall)
 54b—second top portion (second side wall)
 56a—first bottom portion (first side wall)
 56b—second bottom portion (second side wall)
 58a—first protruding portion
 58b—second protruding portion
 60—locked position
 62—receiving position
 64a—first distance
 64b—second distance
 66a—first cantilever arm
 66b—second cantilever arm
 68a—first bottom side wall portion
 68b—second bottom side wall portion
 70—open clearance area
 71—open clearance area
 72a—first back portion (first side wall)
 72b—second back portion (second side wall)
 72c—third back portion (bottom side wall)
 73—second back portion (second side wall)
 74a—first front portion (first side wall)
 74b—second front portion (second side wall)
 74c—third front portion (bottom side wall)
 75—second front portion (second side wall)
 76—front retaining surface
 77—front retaining surface
 78a—left side retaining surface
 78b—right side retaining surface
 80a—first location
 80b—second location
 80c—third location
 80d—fourth location
 82a—first angle
 82b—second angle
 84a—left side height
 84b—right side height
 86a—left side width
 86b—right side width
 88—front surface (personal card)
 92a—first side edge (personal card)
 92b—second side edge (personal card)
 92c—top edge (personal card)
 92d—bottom edge (personal card)
 94a—first aperture
 94b—second aperture
 96a—first side portion (open-sided shell)
 96b—second side portion (open-sided shell)
 98—identification window
 100—aperture (of identification window)
 102a—internal width (open-sided shell)
 102b—internal height (open-sided shell)
 104—first width (open-sided shell)
 106—second width (flexible member)
 108—first external pocket
 110—second external pocket
 112—rivets
 113—rivets
 114—pocket
 116—stitching
 118—open-sided shell
 120—personal card receiving surface
 122—back surface
 124—internal portion (of open-sided shell)

12

- 126—first side wall
 128—second side wall
 130—bottom side wall
 132—flexible member
 134—internal surface
 136—external surface
 138—bottom half
 140—top half
 142—pull tab
 144a—first portion (pull tab)
 144b—second portion (pull tab)
 146—opening (in external surface)
 148—pocket
 150a—first position
 150b—second position
 152a—first bottom side wall portion
 152b—second bottom side wall portion
 154—open clearance area
 156—stretchable band
 158a—first protruding portion
 158b—second protruding portion
 160—open-sided shell
 162—personal card receiving surface
 164—back surface
 166—internal portion (of open-sided shell)
 168—first side wall
 170—second side wall
 172—bottom side wall
 174—flexible member
 176—internal surface
 178—external surface
 180—bottom half
 182—top half
 184—stretchable band
 186—RFID protection plate
 188—open clearance area
 190—bottom portion (RFID plate)
 192—interior pocket
 194—first exterior pocket
 196—second exterior pocket
 198—plurality of rivets
 200—open-sided shell
 202—first personal card receiving surface
 204—second personal card receiving surface
 206—internal portion (of open-sided shell)
 208—first side wall
 210—second side wall
 212—first bottom side wall
 214—third side wall
 216—fourth side wall
 218—second bottom side wall
 220a—first protruding portion
 220b—second protruding portion
 222—stretchable band
 224—RFID protection plate
 226—open clearance area
 228—bottom portion (RFID plate)
 230—at least one aperture
 232—pocket
 234—opening
 236—pull tab
 238—actuation portion

INTRODUCTION

The disclosure includes multiple embodiments of a wallet. In some embodiments, the wallet comprises a bifold-

style wallet with an elastic band configured to wrap around the wallet. In other embodiments, the wallet comprises a single pocket wallet. Multiple embodiments may include a rail system configured to hold multiple personal cards, such as credit cards, identification cards, business cards, membership cards (e.g., grocery store rewards card, gym membership, library card), gift cards, and the like. Multiple embodiments may also be configured to hold paper currency, coupons, photographs, and other paper items.

FIGS. 1A and 1B show different perspective views of a wallet 10a, according to some embodiments. FIG. 1C corresponds to FIG. 1A, and shows a bifold-style wallet 10a in an open position 44. As illustrated, the wallet 10a may include a flexible member 22 comprising a bottom half 28 and a top half 30, as well as an open-sided shell 12 coupled to the bottom half 28 of the flexible member 22. In many embodiments, the open-sided shell 12 includes a personal card receiving surface 14 configured to receive at least one personal card 18, as shown in FIG. 1C. As such, the personal card receiving surface 14 may not be visible beneath the at least one personal card 18. In some embodiments, the open-sided shell 12 is configured to hold up to five personal cards. Depending on the type of card, the open-sided shell 12 may be configured to hold more than five personal cards. FIG. 1C also shows that the top half 30 of the flexible member 22 may include an identification window 98 configured to hold at least one personal card 18. In many embodiments, the identification window 98 is configured to hold a single personal card. The identification window 98 may be configured to hold more than one personal card. As demonstrated, both the identification window 98 and the open-sided shell 12 may be located on an internal surface 24 of the flexible member 22.

FIG. 1D corresponds to FIG. 1B, and shows the wallet 10a in a clamshell position 48. In many embodiments, the clamshell position 48 is defined as the wallet 10a in a closed position with an elastic band 32 wrapped around the wallet 10a, thereby keeping the wallet 10a closed. It should be noted that the elastic band 32 may comprise any flexible material, including rubber, elastic, or any suitable stretchable material. In many embodiments, the elastic band 32 comprises a single continuous piece. FIG. 1D also shows that, in many embodiments, the wallet 10a includes a first external pocket 108. Similar to the identification window 98 and the open-sided shell 12, the first external pocket 108 may be configured to hold at least one personal card 18. The first external pocket 108 may be located on the external surface 26 of the bottom half 28 of the flexible member 22, opposite the open-sided shell 12, which may be located on the internal surface 24, as indicated in FIG. 1C.

FIG. 2 also shows the wallet 10a in the clamshell position 48, but includes a perspective view of the top half 30 rather than the bottom half 28, as in FIG. 1D. As shown, the top half 30 may include a second external pocket 110 configured to hold at least one personal card 18. In many embodiments, the second external pocket 110 is located on the external surface 26 of the wallet 10a, opposite the identification window 98, which is located on the internal surface 24 of the wallet 10a. FIG. 2 also includes the elastic band 32, which may be coupled to the top half 30 and configured to wrap around the bottom half 28 of the wallet 10a, thereby holding the top half 30 against the bottom half 28 in the clamshell position 48. It should be noted that “top half 30” and “bottom half 28” indicate opposite portions of the wallet 10a. A “dividing line” may be imagined as extending through the flexible member 22 between the open-sided shell 12 and identification window and/or between the first

external pocket 108 and the second external pocket 110. As such, the “dividing line” may comprise the portion of the flexible member 22 configured to fold when the wallet 10a is in the clamshell position 48 and/or the closed position 46 (shown in FIG. 10). It should also be noted that the wallet 10a may be configured to “backbend,” or bend in an opposite direction as compared to what is illustrated in the Figures. For example, the first and second external pockets 108, 110 may comprise internal pockets, and the open-sided shell 12 and the identification window 98 may be located on an external portion, when the wallet 10a is in a backbended position. In some embodiments, the elastic band 32 is configured to wrap around the wallet 10a to keep it closed in a backbended position.

FIG. 2 also shows the stitching 116 of the wallet 10a. In many embodiments, substantially an entire perimeter of the flexible member 22 is stitched. The stitching 116 may be used to couple the second external pocket 110 to the top half 30 of the flexible member 22, as well as to couple the identification window 98 to the top half 30 of the flexible member 22. Stitching 116 may also be used to couple the first external pocket 108 to the bottom half 28 of the flexible member 22. In some embodiments, the stitching 116 is used to form a finished edge of the flexible member 22, such as in a center portion of the internal surface 24 between the open-sided shell 12 and the identification window 98. The stitching 116 may comprise hand-stitching or machine-stitching. Though not labeled in every Figure, the stitching 116 may be present in many embodiments of the wallet 10a, both on the external surface 26 (as shown in FIG. 2), and on the internal surface 24 (as shown in FIG. 7).

FIGS. 3 and 4 show the wallet 10a with the elastic band 32 in the first position 38 and second position 40, respectively. As illustrated, in the first position 38, the elastic band 32 may be configured to wrap around an internal surface 24 of the top half 30 of the flexible member 22, such that the elastic band 32 at least partially covers an aperture 100 of the identification window 98. The arrows in FIG. 3 indicate that the elastic band 32 may be configured to change to a second position 40 such that the band 32 wraps around an external surface 26 of the top half 30 so that it no longer extends across the identification window 98, as demonstrated by FIG. 4. FIG. 3 also shows that, in many embodiments, the elastic band 32 comprises a first end 34a coupled to the first side surface 36a of the top half 30, and a second end 34b coupled to the second side surface 36b of the top half 30, where the first side surface 36a is located opposite the second side surface 36b. The first end 34a and second end 34b may be defined as respective halves of the elastic band 32. In some embodiments, the first end 34a and second end 34b define only the small end portions coupled to the first side surface 36a and second side surface 36b, respectively. Each “end” 34a, 34b may be defined as any length of the elastic band 32, between 0.1% and 50% of the total length.

Each end 34a, 34b may be coupled to the respective side surface 36a, 36b via stitching, adhesive, or any other suitable method and/or combination of methods. Each end 34a, 34b may be coupled between layers of material of the top half 30. For example, each end 34a, 34b may be coupled between the identification window 98 and the flexible member 22, or between the flexible member 22 and the second external pocket 110. Alternatively, each end 34a, 34b may be coupled to the internal surface 24 (e.g. to the identification window 98) or to the external surface 26 (e.g. to the second external pocket 110). In some embodiments, the first end 34a is coupled via a different method and/or to a different location than the second end 34b. The first and second ends

15

34a, 34b may be coupled via substantially the same method and to corresponding locations; for example, both ends **34a, 34b** coupled between layers, both ends **34a, 34b** coupled to the internal surface **24**, and/or both ends **34a, 34b** coupled to the external surface **26**.

In some embodiments, the elastic band **32** may be configured to hold at least one personal card **18** and/or paper currency (or other similar items). For example, in the first position **38** illustrated in FIG. 3, the elastic band **32** may be used to hold additional cards, currency, etc. against the identification window **98**. In the second position illustrated in FIG. 4, the elastic band **32** may be used to hold additional cards, currency, etc. against the external surface **26** of the flexible member **22** (e.g., against the second external pocket **110**). The elastic band **32** may also be used to hold additional cards, currency, etc. when the wallet **10a** is in the clamshell position **48**, as will be discussed further with reference to FIG. 9.

FIGS. 3 and 4 also show the aperture **100** of the identification window **98**. In many embodiments, the aperture **100** comprises an open aperture, such that a user is able to view and directly contact the internal surface **24** of the flexible member **22** below the identification window **98** through the aperture **100**. Stated differently, the aperture **100** may not include a covering (e.g. clear plastic), as is common in many traditional wallet designs. An open aperture **100** may provide easy access to the at least one personal card **18** located in the identification window **98**, thereby making it easier for a user to remove the at least one personal card **18**. The open aperture **100** may also contribute to reducing the overall size (weight, bulk, etc.) of the wallet **10a**.

FIG. 5, similar to FIG. 3, shows the wallet **10a** with the elastic band **32** in the first position **38**. As previously mentioned, the elastic band **32** may comprise a first end **34a** located opposite a second end **34b**, and, when in the first position **38**, the elastic band **32** may be configured to wrap around the internal surface **24** of the top half **30**, such that the band **32** extends across the identification window **98**. In many embodiments, the elastic band **32** is located near a center portion of the identification window **98**, such that when the elastic band **32** is in the first position **38**, it extends across substantially the center of the identification window **98** and aperture **100**. The elastic band **32** may be off-center with respect to the identification window **98**. FIG. 6 shows a back perspective view of the wallet **10a** with the elastic band **32** in the first position **38**. As illustrated, the elastic band **32** is visible coupled to the second side surface **36b**, but does not extend across the external surface **26** of the flexible member **22**.

FIG. 7, similar to FIG. 4, shows the wallet **10a** with the elastic band **32** in the second position **40**. As previously stated, when the elastic band **32** is in the second position **40**, it may be configured to wrap around an external surface **26** of the top half **30** of the flexible member **22**. As such, in the second position **40**, the elastic band **32** may not extend across an internal surface **24** of the top half **30**, as indicated by FIG. 7. FIG. 8 shows a back perspective view of the wallet **10a** with the elastic band **32** in the second position **40**, and shows the band **32** extending across the external surface **26** of the top half **30**. In many embodiments, the elastic band **32** extends from a first end **34a** coupled to a first side surface **36a** of the top half **30** to a second end **34b** coupled to a second side surface **36b** of the top half **30**. The elastic band **32** may be configured to extend across substantially a center portion of the second external pocket **110**.

It should be noted that FIGS. 3-8 all illustrate the wallet **10a** in the open position **44**, as shown in FIGS. 1A and 1C.

16

In some embodiments, when the wallet **10a** is in the open position **44**, the flexible member **22** lies substantially flat such that the top half **30** of the internal surface **24** of the flexible member **22** and the personal card receiving surface **14** of the open-sided shell **12** both substantially face the same direction. The direction may be “up,” “down,” “left,” or “right,” depending on the orientation of the wallet **10a**. For example, if the wallet **10a** is lying flat on a table with the external surface **26** against the table, the direction would be considered “up.” If the wallet **10a** is lying flat on a table with the internal surface **24** against the table, the direction would be considered “down.”

FIG. 9 illustrates a perspective view of the wallet **10a** in the clamshell position **48**, with the elastic band **32** in the third position **42**. In contrast to the first position **38** and the second position **40**, where the elastic band **32** wraps around just the top half **30** of the flexible member **22**, in the third position **42**, the elastic band **32** may be configured to wrap around the bottom half **28** of the flexible member **22**. As such, in the third position **42**, the elastic band **32** may be configured to hold the wallet **10a** shut (i.e., in the clamshell position **48**). FIG. 9 also shows that, in many embodiments, when the elastic band **32** is in the third position **42**, the elastic band **32** is configured to extend across the first external pocket **108**. The elastic band **32** may be configured to extend across substantially a center portion of the first external pocket **108**. As previously discussed, the first external pocket **108** may be coupled to the external surface **26** of the bottom half **28** of the flexible member **22**, and located opposite the open-sided shell **12**. In many embodiments, when the wallet **10a** is in the clamshell position **48**, the internal surface **24** of the top half **30** of the flexible member **22** is folded over the personal card receiving surface **14** of the open-sided shell **12** such that the internal surface **24** of the top half **30** of the flexible member **22** faces the personal card receiving surface **14**. The internal surface **24** of the top half **30** may be configured to contact at least a portion of the open-sided shell **12**.

As discussed with reference to FIGS. 3 and 4, the elastic band **32** may be used to hold additional card(s) and/or currency against the wallet **10a**. For example, when the wallet **10a** is in the clamshell position **48** as shown in FIG. 9, the elastic band **32** may be configured to hold card(s) and/or currency between the band **32** and the first external pocket **108**. In addition, the clamshell position **48** may enable a user to partially open the wallet **10a** in order to place and/or retrieve card(s) and/or currency between the top half **30** and the bottom half **28**, without changing the position of the elastic band **32**.

FIG. 10 shows a perspective view of the wallet **10a** in the closed position **46**. Though similar to the clamshell position **48**, the closed position **46** does not include the elastic band **32** in the third position **42** wrapped around the bottom half **28**. Instead, in many embodiments, when the wallet **10a** is in the closed position **46**, the elastic band **32** is configured to be in either the first position **38** or the second position **40**, where the elastic band **32** is wrapped around only the top half **30**. When the wallet **10a** is in the closed position **46**, the internal surface **24** of the top half **30** of the flexible member **22** may be folded over the personal card receiving surface **14** of the open-sided shell **12** such that the internal surface **24** of the top half **30** of the flexible member **22** faces the personal card receiving surface **14** of the open-sided shell **12**. In some embodiments, the internal surface **24** of the top half **30** is configured to contact at least a portion of the open-sided shell **12**.

FIG. 10 also shows that, in some embodiments, the wallet 10a includes a first aperture 94a and a second aperture 94b located opposite the first aperture 94a. The first aperture 94a may be located along a first side portion 96a of the open-sided shell 12 and the second aperture 94b may be located along a second side portion 96b of the open-sided shell 12, as illustrated in FIG. 10. As shown in FIG. 9, when the wallet 10a is in the clamshell position 48, the elastic band 32 may be configured to wrap around the first and second apertures 94a, 94b. The apertures 94a, 94b may help hold the elastic band 32 in place around the wallet 10a and prevent movement of the band 32 along the first and second side portions 96a, 96b of the open-sided shell 12. In some embodiments, the composition of each of the first and second apertures 94a, 94b includes each aperture itself as well as the surrounding structure of the open-sided shell 12. An outermost portion of the open-sided shell may include a central indented portion bordered by raised side walls that create a sort-of channel to help retain the elastic band 32 and prevent unwanted movement. The first and second apertures 94a, 94b may also be used to couple accessory devices (e.g., keyring/keychain, carabiner, and the like) to the wallet 10a.

It should also be noted that, in some embodiments, rather than coupling the elastic band 32 to the top half 30 of the flexible member 22, the elastic band 32 may be configured to couple to the bottom half 28 of the flexible member 22. For example, the elastic band 32 may be configured to couple along the first side portion 96a and second side portion 96b, and wrap around only the bottom half 28 (in modified first and second positions), or around both the bottom half 28 and top half 30 (in a modified third position). The elastic band 32 may be configured to couple within the first and second apertures 94a, 94b, or may be configured to couple to the first external pocket 108 adjacent the first and second apertures 94a, 94b. The elastic band 32 may be configured to couple between the open-sided shell 12 and the bottom half 28 of the flexible member 22 (e.g., on the back surface 16 of the open-sided shell 12).

In many embodiments, as shown in FIGS. 11-18, the open-sided shell 12 of the wallet 10a comprises a first side wall 50a and a second side wall 50b located opposite the first side wall 50a. The open-sided shell 12 may also include a bottom side wall 50c, which will be discussed in greater detail later in the disclosure. The first side wall 50a, second side wall 50b, and bottom side wall 50c may be configured to retain the at least one personal card 18 in place with respect to the personal card receiving surface 14. In some embodiments, the first side wall 50a includes comprises a first retention tab 52a configured to move away from the second side wall 50b to thereby receive the at least one personal card 18. Similarly, the second side wall 50b may comprise a second retention tab 52b configured to move away from the first side wall 50a to thereby receive the at least one personal card 18. Each of the first and second side walls 50a, 50b may define a top portion and a bottom portion located adjacent the bottom side wall 50c, wherein the retention tabs 52a, 52b may be located adjacent the respective top portions. The top and bottom portions of each side wall 50a, 50b will be discussed further later in the disclosure. The previously mentioned "rail system" may include the first side wall 50a, second side wall 50b, and bottom side wall 50c, as well as the first and second retention tabs 52a, 52b.

FIG. 11 illustrates a front interior view of the wallet 10a, including an inset view of a first retention tab 52a. The inset view shows that, in many embodiments, the first retention tab 52a includes a first cantilever arm 66a as well as a first

protruding portion 58a. The first protruding portion 58a may be configured to secure the at least one personal card 18 in place with respect to the personal card receiving surface 14. Similarly, in many embodiments, the second retention tab 52b comprises a second cantilever arm 66b and a second protruding portion 58b configured to secure the at least one personal card 18 in place with respect to the personal card receiving surface 14. As illustrated in the inset view of FIG. 11, the first cantilever arm 66a may be physically spaced a first distance 64a from a remaining portion of the first side wall 50a. Accordingly, the second cantilever arm 66b may also be physically spaced a first distance 64a from a remaining portion of the second side wall 50b. In many embodiments, the first and second retention tabs 52a, 52b are configured to move between a locked position 60, as shown in FIG. 13, and a receiving position 62, as shown in FIG. 12.

FIG. 12 shows a view similar to FIG. 11, but includes the at least one personal card 18 being inserted into the open-sided shell 12, as indicated by the dashed block arrow. As such, FIG. 12 illustrates the first and second retention tabs 52a, 52b in the receiving position 62. The inset view of FIG. 12 illustrates that, in the receiving position 62, the first retention tab 52a moves toward the remaining portion of the first side wall 50a, reducing the size of the gap between the first retention tab 52a and the first side wall 50a. As shown, in the receiving position 62, the first retention tab 52a is spaced a second distance 64b from the first side wall 50a. Comparing FIG. 12 to FIG. 11 demonstrates that, in many embodiments, the second distance 64b is less than the first distance 64a, as the first retention tab 52a is closer to the first side wall 50a in the receiving position 62. In many embodiments, the same is true for the second retention tab 52b, as it moves toward the remaining portion of the second side wall 50b thereby reducing the size of the gap between the second retention tab 52b and the second side wall 50b. In the receiving position 62, the second retention tab 52b may be located substantially the same second distance 64b from the second side wall 50b as the second distance 64b between the first retention tab 52a and the first side wall 50a.

Speaking in terms of distance between the first retention tab 52a and the second retention tab 52b, in some embodiments, when the first retention tab 52a and the second retention tab 52b are in a locked position 60 (as shown in FIG. 13), the first retention tab 52a is located a first distance from the second retention tab 52b. When the first and second retention tabs 52a, 52b are in the receiving position 62 (as shown in FIG. 12), the first retention tab 52a may be located a second distance from the second retention tab 52b. In some embodiments, the second distance is greater than the first distance, as the retention tabs 52a, 52b move away from one another in order to receive the at least one personal card 18. Stated differently, when the open-sided shell 12 receives the at least one personal card 18, the first retention tab 52a may be configured to move away from the second side wall 50b and the first retention tab 52b may be configured to move away from the first side wall 50a.

FIG. 13 shows the wallet 10a coupled to the at least one personal card 18 in the locked position 60. As indicated by the inset view, in the locked position 60, the first retention tab 52a may be configured to move away from the remaining portion of the first side wall 50a such that the first retention tab 52a returns to the first distance 64a from the first side wall 50a, as shown in FIG. 11. Accordingly, the first and second retention tabs 52a, 52b may be configured to reside in the same position when there is no personal card coupled to the wallet 10a, as shown in FIG. 11, and when there is at least one personal card 18 securely coupled to the wallet

10a, as shown in FIG. 13. In some embodiments, the difference between the first distance **64a** and second distance **64b** is about a few millimeters. The first and second retention tabs **52a**, **52b** may be configured to flex only as much as needed to receive and/or release the at least one personal card **18**. As shown in the inset view, when the at least one personal card **18** is coupled to the wallet **10a** and the first retention tab **52a** is in the locked position **60**, a corner of the at least one personal card **18** may be configured to fit adjacent the retention tab **52a** between the first protruding portion **58a** and the first cantilever arm **66a**. The corner of the at least one personal card **18** may be configured to fit just below the first protruding portion **58a**. In many embodiments, the same is true for the second retention tab **52b**.

FIG. 14 also shows the wallet **10a** coupled to the at least one personal card **18** in the locked position **60**. In some embodiments, when the open-sided shell **12** securely couples the at least one personal card **18** within an internal portion **20** of the shell **12**, the first retention tab **52a** moves towards the second side wall **50b** and the second retention tab **52b** moves towards the first side wall **50a**. Securely coupling the at least one personal card **18** within the open-sided shell **12** may result in an audible sound, as indicated by each of the “CLICK” word bubbles in FIG. 14. In some embodiments, the audible sound is caused by the first and second retention tabs **52a**, **52b** moving back toward one another to their original position, or the position shown in FIGS. 11 and 13. The audible noise may also be caused by the at least one personal card **18** contacting a bottom side wall **50c** of the open-sided shell **12**. The audible noise may be caused by a combination of sources, and the volume of the noise may vary depending on the number of personal cards coupled to the open-sided shell **12**.

FIG. 15 is similar to FIG. 12, but rather than illustrating the at least one personal card **18** being inserted into the open-sided shell **12**, FIG. 15 shows the at least one personal card **18** being removed from the open-sided shell **12**, as indicated by the dashed block arrow. In many embodiments, the at least one personal card **18** is removed by pushing the card **18** from an open area in the bottom side wall **50c**, which will be discussed in greater detail later in the disclosure. The inset view of FIG. 15 shows that the first retention tab **52a** (and second retention tab **52b**) assume the receiving position **62** during removal of the at least one personal card **18**. Accordingly, during removal of the at least one personal card **18**, the first retention tab **52a** and second retention tab **52b** move toward the first and second side walls **50a**, **50b**, respectively, thereby reducing the gap between each retention tab **52a**, **52b** and each side wall **50a**, **50b**. As with insertion of the at least one personal card **18**, the gap between each retention tab **52a**, **52b** and each respective side wall **50a**, **50b** may comprise the second distance **64b**. In some embodiments, the open-sided shell **12** creates an audible noise upon complete removal of the at least one personal card **18**.

It should be noted that FIGS. 12-15 illustrate a method of inserting and removing at least one personal card **18** where, in many embodiments, the at least one personal card **18** is contacting the protruding portions **58a**, **58b** substantially the entire time until the at least one personal card **18** is securely coupled or completely removed. These Figures illustrate only one way to insert and/or remove the at least one personal card **18**, which may be thought of as a “straight-on” insertion/removal. During the “straight-on” insertion/removal, the at least one personal card **18** may remain substantially parallel to the personal card receiving surface **14**.

In contrast, FIGS. 16-18 illustrate a different method of inserting and removing at least one personal card **18**. Beginning with FIG. 16, the at least one personal card **18** is shown being inserted into the open-sided shell **12**. The inset view demonstrates that the first retention tab **52a** may be configured to not move during insertion of the at least one personal card **18**, as the card **18** enters the open-sided shell **12** at an angle over the retention tabs **52a**, **52b**, rather than next to the retention tabs **52a**, **52b**, as previously described. Depending on the number of personal cards **18** already coupled to the open-sided shell **12**, it may be possible that the at least one personal card **18** does not contact either the first or second retention tab **52a**, **52b** during insertion and/or removal (shown in FIG. 18) using the “angled” method. In some embodiments, when the at least one personal card **18** is inserted into and/or removed from the open-sided shell **12** using the “angled” method, the at least one personal card **18** may form an angle of up to about 45 degrees with the personal card receiving surface **14**. The at least one personal card **18** may form an angle of greater than 45 degrees with the personal card receiving surface **14**.

The inset views of FIGS. 16, 17, and 18 further illustrate the static nature of the first retention tab **52a**, by showing that during insertion of the at least one personal card **18** (FIG. 16), secured coupling of the at least one personal card **18** (FIG. 17), and removal of the at least one personal card **18** (FIG. 18), the first retention tab **52a** remains at a location a first distance **64a** from the remaining portion of the first side wall **50a**. In many embodiments, the second retention tab **52b** is also static throughout insertion, coupling, and removal of the at least one personal card **18**. FIG. 17 also shows that, as illustrated in FIG. 13, the at least one personal card **18** may be configured to fit adjacent the first cantilever arm **66a** with a corner of the card **18** located just below the first protruding portion **58a**. In many embodiments, the fit is in the same on the opposite edge of the card **18** adjacent the second cantilever arm **66b** and second protruding portion **58b**.

Turning now to FIG. 19, a front interior view of the wallet **10a** is shown. FIG. 19 illustrates the first side wall **50a**, the second side wall **50b**, and the bottom side wall **50c** of the open-sided shell **12**. In many embodiments, the first side wall **50a** includes a first top portion **54a** and a first bottom portion **56a**. Similarly, the second side wall **50b** may include a second top portion **54b** and a second bottom portion **56b**. In many embodiments, the first and second retention tabs **52a**, **52b** are located adjacent the first and second top portions **54a**, **54b**, respectively. The first and second bottom portions **56a**, **56b** may be configured to couple to the bottom side wall **50c**. Though illustrated in FIG. 19 as dissecting the first and second apertures **94a**, **94b**, it should be noted that the top and bottom portions **54**, **56** may be larger or smaller than represented in FIG. 19. For example, in some embodiments, the first and second top portions **54a**, **54b** include the portions of the first and second side walls **50a**, **50b** located above the apertures **94a**, **94b**, while the first and second bottom portions **56a**, **56b** include the portions of the first and second side walls **50a**, **50b** extending from the top of each aperture **94a**, **94b** to the bottom side wall **50c**. The first and second top portions **54a**, **54b** may include the entire aperture **94a**, **94b**, while the first and second bottom portions **56a**, **56b** extend from below the apertures **94a**, **94b** to the bottom side wall **50c**.

FIG. 19 also includes a directional indicator, comprising a first direction and a second direction perpendicular to the first direction. In many embodiments, the first side wall **50a** and the second side wall **50b** are elongate along the first

direction, and the bottom side wall **50c** is elongate along the second direction. Though not shown in FIG. 19, the elastic band **32** may be configured to extend across the top half **30** and/or bottom half **28** of the wallet **10a** along the second direction, as illustrated in previous Figures.

Similar to FIG. 19, FIG. 20 includes more elements of the bottom side wall **50c**. In many embodiments, the bottom side wall **50c** comprises a first bottom side wall portion **68a** and a second bottom side wall portion **68b**, as well as an open clearance area **70** located between the two portions **68a**, **68b**. The open clearance area **70** may be configured to receive a user's finger so that the user may thereby push the at least one personal card **18** away from the bottom side wall **50c**, and remove the card **18** from the wallet **10a**. As shown in FIG. 20, in some embodiments, the second bottom side wall portion **68b** is wider than the first bottom side wall portion **68a**. The first bottom side wall portion **68a** may be wider than the second bottom side wall portion **68b**. In some embodiments, the first and second bottom side wall portions **68a**, **68b** are substantially the same width. The first and second bottom side wall portions **68a**, **68b** may be substantially the same height.

FIG. 21 shows a cross-sectional view of part of the open-sided shell **12**, including the first side wall **50a** and the first bottom side wall portion **68a**. In many embodiments, the first side wall **50a** defines a first back portion **72a** located adjacent the personal card receiving surface **14** and a first front portion **74a** located opposite the first back portion **72a**, as illustrated in FIG. 21. The first front portion **74a** and first back portion **72a** may be considered to border a channel, or first interior portion, in the first side wall **50**, wherein the at least one personal card **18** is received by the channel/first interior portion. Stated differently, when the at least one personal card **18** is coupled to the open-sided shell **12**, an edge of the card **18** may be located between the first back portion **72a** and the first front portion **74a**, facing the first interior portion, and kept in place (e.g., prevented from falling out of the wallet **10a**) by the first front portion **74a**. In many embodiments, the open-sided shell **12** also includes a front retaining surface **76** that protrudes along the second direction from the first front portion **74a** of the first side wall **50a**. The front retaining surface **76** may also extend around at least a portion of a perimeter of the personal card receiving surface **14**, as illustrated in FIGS. 21, 22, and 23.

In some embodiments, the open-sided shell **12** comprises a beveled surface. Looking back to FIG. 20, the beveled surface of the open-sided shell **12** may comprise the portion of the open-sided shell **12** including the first and second apertures **94a**, **94b**. The beveled surface may extend from the front retaining surface **76** to a side surface of the open-sided shell **12** located adjacent the flexible member **22**. In many embodiments, the front retaining surface **76** comprises the top, flat face of the open-sided shell **12** between the beveled surface and the internal portion **20** of the open-sided shell **12** (shown in FIG. 24). The first front portion **74a** (and second and third front portions **74b**, **74c**) may be considered an inner edge of the front retaining surface **76** located opposite an edge of the front retaining surface **76** adjacent the beveled surface of the open-sided shell **12**. The use of "flat" when describing the front retaining surface **76** is intended to convey that, in many embodiments, the front retaining surface **76** is parallel to the personal card receiving surface **14**. It should also be noted that the front retaining surface **76** may be the portion of the open-sided shell **12** that contacts the internal surface **24** of the top half **30** of the wallet **10a** when the wallet **10a** is in

the clamshell position **48** and/or closed position **46**, as discussed with reference to FIGS. 9 and 10.

Similar to the first side wall **50a**, FIG. 22 illustrates that, in many embodiments, the second side wall **50b** defines a second back portion **72b** located adjacent the personal card receiving surface **14** and a second front portion **74b** located opposite the second back portion **72b**. As discussed with reference to FIG. 21, the second front portion **74b** and the second back portion **72b** may be considered to border a channel, or second interior portion, in the second side wall **50b** configured to receive the at least one personal card **18** such that an edge of the at least one personal card **18** faces the second interior portion. The front retaining surface **76** may extend along the second direction from the second front portion **74b** of the second side wall **50b**.

FIG. 23 is similar to FIGS. 21 and 22 and shows a cross-sectional view of the wallet **10a** including the bottom side wall **50c**. In many embodiments, the bottom side wall **50c** defines a third back portion **72c** located adjacent the personal card receiving surface and a third front portion **74c** located opposite the third back portion **72c**. It should be noted that the third front and back portions **74c**, **72c** may be located on both the second bottom side wall portion **68b**, as shown in FIG. 23, as well as the first bottom side wall portion **68a**. In some embodiments, the front retaining surface **76** protrudes along the first direction from the third front portion **74c** of the bottom side wall **50c**. Similar to the channel created by the space between the first back portion **72a** and first front portion **74a**, as well as between the second back portion **72b** and the second front portion **74b**, the space between the third back portion **72c** and the third front portion **74c** may create a channel, or bottom interior portion, configured to receive an edge of the at least one personal card **18** such that when the at least one personal card **18** couples to the open-sided shell **12**, a bottom edge is configured to face the bottom interior portion. FIG. 23 also shows the open clearance area **70**, and further illustrates how the open clearance area **70** provides access to the at least one personal card **18** coupled to the open-sided shell **12**.

In some embodiments, the front retaining surface **76** comprises a left side retaining surface **78a** and a right side retaining surface **78b**, as illustrated in FIG. 24. The left side retaining surface **78a** may define a left side height **84a** and a left side width **86a**, and the right side retaining surface **78b** may define a right side height **84b** and a right side width **86b**. In many embodiments, as shown in FIG. 25A, the left side height **84a** and right side height **84b** are substantially equal. FIG. 25B shows that, in some embodiments, the left side width **86a** is less than the right side width **86b**. The left side width **86a** may be greater than the right side width **86b**. In some embodiments, the left side width **86a** and right side width **86b** are substantially equal, and the open clearance area **70** is centered along the bottom side wall **50c**.

Referring now to FIG. 26, the open-sided shell **12** with an inset view of the open clearance area **70** is shown. In many embodiments, as illustrated in FIG. 26, the left side retaining surface **78a** extends from a first location **80a** located below the first retention tab **52a** down along the first side wall **50a** and along the bottom side wall **50c** to a second location **80b** adjacent the open clearance area **70**. The right side retaining surface **78b** may extend from a third location **80c** adjacent the open clearance area **70** along the bottom side wall **50c** and up along the second side wall **50b** to a fourth location **80d** located below the second retention tab **52b**. The inset view of FIG. 26 shows the open clearance area **70** with the second location **80b** on the left and the third location **80c** on the right. As indicated by the inset view, in some embodiments,

ments, the second location **80b** of the left side retaining surface **78a** defines a first angle **82a**, and the third location **80c** of the right side retaining surface **78b** defines a second angle **82b**. The second angle **82b** may be greater than the first angle **82a**, as shown in FIG. 26. In some embodiments, the first angle **82a** is greater than the second angle **82b**. The first angle **82a** and second angle **82b** may be substantially equal, and the open clearance area **70** may define a symmetrical shape.

FIG. 27 shows a back view of the external surface **26** of the wallet **10a** in the open position **44**. As previously discussed, in many embodiments, the wallet **10a** comprises a flexible member **22** having a top half **30** and a bottom half **28**. FIG. 27 also includes the elastic band **32** coupled to the top half **30**, and shows the band **32** in the second position **40** extending across the second external pocket **110**. The first external pocket **108** is also included, as are the rivets **112** which, in many embodiments, couple the flexible member **22** and first external pocket **108** to a back surface of the open-sided shell **12**. Though FIG. 27 shows the wallet **10a** comprising eight total rivets **112**, any number of rivets **112** may be used to couple the open-sided shell **12** to the flexible member **22**. In addition, the rivets **112** are not limited to being located on opposite sides of the wallet **10a** (e.g., the first and second side surfaces **96a**, **96b** of the bottom half **28**), and may also be located along a bottom edge, as long as the rivets **112** do not interfere with the ability of the first external pocket **108** to hold at least one personal card **18**. The rivets **112** may be evenly or unevenly distributed around the bottom half **28** of the flexible member **22**. In some embodiments, the wallet **10a** comprises another attachment mechanism (e.g., adhesive or the like) in addition to the rivets **112** in order to couple the flexible member **22** to the open-sided shell **12**. The wallet **10a** may comprise an alternative attachment mechanism(s) instead of the rivets **112**.

FIG. 27 also illustrates that the first and second external pockets **108**, **110** define complementary shapes. In some embodiments, the first external pocket **108** comprises a first piece of material coupled, along three edges, to the external surface **26** of the bottom half **28** of the flexible member **22**. As previously mentioned, the coupling may comprise stitching **116**, the use of rivets **112**, or any other suitable method. In some embodiments, the coupling also comprises the use of rubber or a similar material to form a finished and/or fused edge along three edges of the first external pocket **108**. It should be noted that the three coupled edges of the first external pocket **108** may include gaps or areas of non-coupling, for example, in the open clearance area **70**. In some embodiments, the fourth edge of the first external pocket **108**, or the non-coupled edge configured to receive the at least one personal card **18**, defines a concave shape, as shown in FIG. 27. The non-coupled edge may define any shape including, but not limited to, a straight line, a convex shape, a concave shape, a scalloped shape, and the like. The non-coupled edge may be located adjacent a center portion of the flexible member **22**.

In some embodiments, the second external pocket **110** comprises a second piece of material coupled, along three edges, to the external surface **26** of the top half **30** of the flexible member **22**. As previously mentioned, the coupling may comprise stitching **116** or any other suitable method. In some embodiments, the coupling also comprises the use of rubber or a similar material to form a finished and/or fused edge along three edges of the second external pocket **110**. Two side edges may include gaps where the elastic band **32** is coupled to the top half **30** of the flexible member **22**. In

some embodiments, the fourth edge of the second external pocket **110**, or the non-coupled edge configured to receive the at least one personal card **18**, defines a convex shape, as shown in FIG. 27. The non-coupled edge may define any shape including, but not limited to, a straight line, a convex shape, a concave shape, a scalloped shape, and the like. The non-coupled edge may be located adjacent a center portion of the flexible member **22**.

Similar to the external pockets **108**, **110**, in some embodiments, the identification window **98** comprises a third piece of material coupled, along three edges, to the internal surface **24** of the top half **30** of the flexible member **22**. As previously mentioned, the coupling may comprise stitching **116** or any other suitable method. In some embodiments, the coupling also comprises the use of rubber or a similar material to form a finished and/or fused edge along three edges of the identification window **98**. It should be noted that, unlike the external pockets **108**, **110**, the third piece of material used to form the identification window **98** comprises more of a border than a solid piece, in order to create the aperture **100** in the window **98**. In some embodiments, the fourth edge of the identification window **98**, or the non-coupled edge configured to receive the at least one personal card **18**, defines a straight edge, as shown in numerous previous Figures. The non-coupled edge may define any shape including, but not limited to, a straight line, a convex shape, a concave shape, a scalloped shape, and the like. The non-coupled edge may be located adjacent a center portion of the flexible member **22**.

Referring now to FIG. 28, the wallet **10a** is shown in one of the closed position **46** and clamshell position **48**, with a front view of the top half **30** of the flexible member **22**. In many embodiments, the open-sided shell **12** defines a first width **104** and the flexible member **22** defines a second width **106**. As indicated in FIG. 28, the first width **104** may be greater than the second width **106**. In some embodiments, the first width **104** and the second width **106** are substantially the same. The first width **104** may be less than the second width **106**. In many embodiments, the second width **106** is configured to be at least as wide as a standard credit card, such that the flexible member **22** is at least the same width, if not wider than, the at least one personal card **18**. FIG. 29 illustrates a similar view as FIG. 28, but shows the bottom half **28** of the flexible member **22**. In addition, FIG. 29 demonstrates that the wallet **10a** is in the clamshell position **48**, with the elastic band **32** in the third position **42**. Similar to FIG. 27, FIG. 29 includes the rivets **112** coupling the open-sided shell **12** to the bottom half **28** of the flexible member **22**. FIG. 29 also shows the open clearance area **70**, and illustrates that, in many embodiments, the internal surface **24** of the top half **30** is visible through the open clearance area **70**. The internal surface **24** may be visible both when no cards are coupled to the open-sided shell **12**, as in FIG. 29, as well as when at least one personal card **18** is coupled to the open-sided shell **12**. It should be noted that the first external pocket **108** may include an opening along the bottom edge of the pocket **108** corresponding to the open clearance area **70**, such that at least one personal card **18** may be removed from the first external pocket **108** by pushing up on an exposed edge of the card **18** in the open clearance area **70**.

Turning now to FIG. 30, a bottom view of the wallet **10a** in the clamshell position **48** is shown. The view includes the top half **30** of the flexible member **22**, as well as the bottom half **28** of the flexible member **22**. FIG. 30 also shows the back surface **16** of the open-sided shell **12**, which is coupled to the bottom half **28** of the flexible member **22**. The first and

second bottom side wall portions 68a, 68b are shown with the open clearance area 70 located between the portions 68a, 68b. FIG. 30 also includes the elastic band 32 wrapped around each edge of the wallet 10a, thereby indicating that the wallet 10a is in the clamshell position 48.

FIGS. 31 and 32 illustrate opposite side views of the wallet 10a again in the clamshell position 48, as shown in FIG. 30. FIG. 31 comprises a left side view of the wallet 10a and includes the first side wall 50a of the open-sided shell 12. In contrast, FIG. 32 comprises a right side view of the wallet 10a and includes the second side wall 50b of the open-sided shell 12. Both FIGS. 31 and 32 show the rivets 112 coupling the bottom half 28 of the flexible member 22 to the back surface 16 of the open-sided shell 12. The rivets 112 may have a shorter profile than shown in the Figures. For example, in some embodiments, the rivets 112 are flush with, or even embedded into, the bottom half 28 of the flexible member 22. As such, the rivets 112 may not always be visible in a side view of the wallet 10a. FIGS. 31 and 32 also both include the elastic band 32 wrapping around the wallet 10a from the top half 30 to the bottom half 28 of the flexible member 22, thereby indicating that the wallet 10a is in the clamshell position 48.

FIG. 33 shows a bottom view of the wallet 10a in the open position 44. As such, FIG. 33 comprises mainly the open-sided shell 12 with the first and second bottom side wall portions 68a, 68b, as well as the bottom half 28 of the flexible member 22 coupled to the back surface 16 of the open-sided shell 12. FIG. 33 also shows the open clearance area 70 located between the first bottom side wall portion 68a and the second bottom side wall portion 68b.

Similar to FIGS. 31 and 32, FIGS. 34 and 35 show opposite side views of the wallet 10a, but in the open position 44. FIG. 34 comprises a left side view including the first side wall 50a of the open-sided shell 12, and FIG. 35 comprises a right side view including the second side wall 50b. FIGS. 34 and 35 both show the wallet 10a facing up such that the internal surface 24 of the flexible member 22 is shown above the external surface 26. Both FIGS. 34 and 35 also illustrate the elastic band 32 in the second position 40, thereby wrapped around the external surface 26 of the flexible member 22. FIGS. 34 and 35 clearly illustrate the thickness of the top half 30 of the flexible member 22 compared to the thickness of the open-sided shell 12 coupled to the bottom half 28 of the flexible member 22.

FIGS. 36-41 illustrate embodiments of a wallet 10b. The wallet 10b may be similar in some ways to the wallet 10a; for example, in some embodiments, the wallet 10b comprises an open-sided shell 13 that is substantially the same as the open-sided shell 12 of the wallet 10a. However, in many embodiments, the wallet 10b comprises a single pocket wallet design instead of the bifold design of the wallet 10a. As shown in FIG. 37, the wallet 10b may comprise a pocket 114 coupled to a back surface 17 of the open-sided shell 13, without the flexible member 22 and additional pockets 98, 110 of the wallet 10a.

FIG. 36 shows a front perspective view of the wallet 10b, including the open-sided shell 13. Similar to the open-sided shell 12 of the wallet 10a, the open-sided shell 13 may comprise a first side wall 51a, a second side wall 51b, and a bottom side wall 51c. The wallet 10b may also include a first retention tab 53a and a second retention tab 53b, which, in many embodiments, are substantially similar (in structure and function) to the first retention tab 52a and the second retention tab 52b of the wallet 10a. In some embodiments, the open-sided shell 13 comprises a front retaining surface 77 which, like the front retaining surface 76 of the wallet

10a, may be configured to extend down along the first side wall 51a, across the bottom side wall 51c, and up along the second side wall 51b. FIG. 36 also illustrates that, in some embodiments, the wallet 10b includes an open clearance area 71, which, similar to the other elements of the wallet 10b, may be substantially similar to the open clearance area 70 of the wallet 10a.

The angle of FIG. 36 includes an interior view of the second side wall 51b of the open-sided shell 13. It should be noted that though only illustrated and discussed in terms of the second side wall 51b, in many embodiments, both the first side wall 51a and the bottom side wall 51c comprise similar components as the second side wall 51b, which may all be similar to the first side wall 50a, second side wall 50b, and bottom side wall 50c of the wallet 10a. In many embodiments, the second side wall 51b defines a second back portion 73 and a second front portion 75 located opposite the second back portion 73, as illustrated in FIG. 36. The second front portion 75 and second back portion 73 may be considered to border a channel, or interior portion, in the second side wall 51b, wherein the at least one personal card 18 is received by the channel/interior portion. Stated differently, when the at least one personal card 18 is coupled to the open-sided shell 13, an edge of the card 18 may be located between the second back portion 73 and the second front portion 75, facing the interior portion, and kept in place (e.g., prevented from falling out of the wallet 10b) by the second front portion 75. In many embodiments, the open-sided shell 13 also includes a front retaining surface 77 that protrudes along the second direction from the second front portion 75 of the second side wall 51b.

As discussed with reference to the open-sided shell 12 of the wallet 10a, in some embodiments, the open-sided shell 13 comprises a beveled surface. In many embodiments, the front retaining surface 77 comprises the top, flat face of the open-sided shell 13 between the beveled surface and the internal portion 21 of the open-sided shell, as shown in FIG. 36. The second front portion 75 (and first and third front portions of the first and bottom side walls 51a, 51c) may be considered an inner edge of the front retaining surface 77 located opposite an edge of the front retaining surface 77 adjacent the beveled surface of the open-sided shell 13. The use of "flat" when describing the front retaining surface 77 is intended to convey that, in many embodiments, the front retaining surface 77 is parallel to the personal card receiving surface 15 of the open-sided shell 13.

FIG. 37 shows a back perspective view of the wallet 10b, including the pocket 114 coupled to the back surface 17 of the open-sided shell 13. Similar to the wallet 10a, in many embodiments, the open-sided shell 13 is coupled to the pocket 114 via rivets 113. Though FIG. 37 shows the wallet 10b comprising eight total rivets 113, any number of rivets 113 may be used to couple the open-sided shell 13 to the pocket 114. In addition, the rivets 113 are not limited to being located on opposite sides of the wallet 10b, and may also be located along a bottom edge, as long as the rivets 113 do not interfere with the ability of the pocket 114 to hold at least one personal card 18. The rivets 113 may be evenly or unevenly distributed around the pocket 114. In some embodiments, the wallet 10b comprises another attachment mechanism (e.g., adhesive or the like) in addition to the rivets 113 in order to couple the pocket 114 to the open-sided shell 13. The wallet 10b may comprise an alternative attachment mechanism(s) instead of the rivets 113.

FIG. 38 shows a front view of the wallet 10b and at least one personal card 18 being inserted into the wallet 10b, as indicated by the dashed block arrow. In many embodiments,

the at least one personal card **18** comprises a front surface **88**, a back surface located opposite the front surface **88**, a first side edge **92a**, a second side edge **92b** located opposite the first side edge **92a**, a top edge **92c**, and a bottom edge **92d** located opposite the top edge **92c**. When the at least one personal card **18** is securely coupled to the open-sided shell **13**, as shown in FIG. 39, the back surface of the card **18** may be configured to face the personal card receiving surface **15**. In many embodiments, the front retaining surface **77** of the open-sided shell **13** is configured to cover at least a portion of the front surface **88** along the first side edge **92a**, the second side edge **92b**, and the bottom edge **92d**. FIG. 39 shows the at least one personal card **18** coupled to the open-sided shell **13** on top of the personal card receiving surface **15**, and illustrates how the first side edge **92a**, second side edge **92b**, and bottom edge **92d** are at least partially covered. In some embodiments, the front retaining surface **76** is configured to cover at least a portion of the front surface **88** of the at least one personal card **18** in a manner substantially the same as the front retaining surface **77**.

FIGS. 38 and 39 also include an internal width **102a** and internal height **102b** of the open-sided shell **13**. In many embodiments, the internal portion **21** of the open-sided shell **13** defines an internal width **102a** measuring at least 3.375 inches and an internal height **102b** measuring at least 2.125 inches. These measurements may correspond to the standard size of the at least one personal card **18** (e.g., standard credit card, gift card, identification card, and the like), which define a width of 3.375 inches and a height of 2.125 inches. In many embodiments, the internal width **102a** is slight larger than 3.375 inches, such that the at least one personal card **18** has a small amount of “wiggle room” to move side-to-side while coupled to the open-sided shell **13**. In some embodiments, the internal height **102b** is slightly larger than 2.125 inches, such that the at least one personal card **18** rests below a top border of the open-sided shell **13**. As shown in, and discussed with reference to, FIGS. 13 and 17, the at least one personal card **18** may be configured to fit just below the protruding portions of the first and second retention tabs **53a**, **53b**.

It should be noted that, in many embodiments, the internal width **102a** and internal height **102b** of the open-sided shell **13** also apply to the open-sided shell **12**, such that the open-sided shell **12** and the open-sided shell **13** are substantially the same size. The internal width **102a** may correspond to the width between the channels/interior portions of the first and second side walls **50**, **51**, as described with reference to FIGS. 21-23. The internal width **102a** may also be defined as extending from the cantilever arm **66** of each retention tab **52**, **53** down to the bottom side wall **50c**, **51c**.

FIG. 40 is similar to FIG. 38, but shows the at least one personal card **18** being removed from the wallet **10b**, as indicated by the dashed block arrow. Similar to removal of the at least one personal card **18** from the wallet **10a**, the card **18** may be removed from the wallet **10b** by a user accessing the card **18** via the open clearance area **71** and pushing on the bottom edge **92d** of the card **18**. Also similar to insertion/removal of the at least one personal card **18** from the wallet **10a**, during insertion/removal of the at least one personal card **18** from the wallet **10b**, the first and second retention tabs **53a**, **53b** may be configured to move away from one another in order to fit the at least one personal card **18** through the personal card receiving surface **15**. In many embodiments, the process shown in, and described with reference to, FIGS. 12-15, is substantially the same as the process for inserting and/or removing the at least one personal card **18** from the open-sided shell **13** of the wallet

10b. The at least one personal card **18** may also be configured to be inserted into and/or removed from the open-sided shell **13** using substantially the same “angled” method shown in, and discussed with reference to, FIGS. 16-18.

FIG. 41 shows a back view of the wallet **10b**, including the pocket **114** coupled to the open-sided shell **13** via the rivets **113**. In some embodiments, like the open-sided shell **13**, the pocket **114** includes an open clearance area **71** that exposes a bottom edge **92d** of at least one personal card **18** coupled to the pocket **114**. As such, a user may be able to remove the at least one personal card **18** by pushing on the exposed edge **92d** in the open clearance area **71**. It should also be noted that though not shown in the Figures depicting the wallet **10b**, in many embodiments, the wallet **10b** includes stitching similar to the stitching **116** shown on the wallet **10a**. For example, the wallet **10b** may include stitching on the pocket **114** between the rivets **113** and along at least a portion of a bottom edge of the pocket **114**. Stitching may be used to couple the pocket **114** to an additional piece of material, wherein the additional piece of material is configured to face the back surface **17** of the open-sided shell **13**. In this way, the additional piece of material may be considered a “backing piece” similar to the bottom half **28** of the flexible member **22** of the wallet **10a**, where the bottom half **28** is coupled to the back surface **16** of the open-sided shell **12** and to the first external pocket **108**.

In many embodiments, the flexible member **22**, identification window **98**, first external pocket **108**, and second external pocket **110** of the wallet **10a**, as well as the pocket **114** and “backing piece” of the wallet **10b** are comprised of a flexible yet durable material, such as leather. The recited components may comprise a high-quality material, such as top grain genuine leather. In some embodiments, at least one of the flexible member **22**, the identification window **98**, the first external pocket **108**, the second external pocket **110**, and the pocket **114** comprise a tougher, yet still flexible, non-leather material, such as DTEX. In some embodiments, different elements of a wallet **10a**, **10b** comprise different materials. For example, one embodiment of the wallet **10a** may comprise a leather flexible member **22** with DTEX external pockets **108**, **110**, and a DTEX identification window **98**. In many embodiments, the elements other than the open-sided shell **12**, **13** of a wallet **10a**, **10b** comprise substantially the same material. Any of the identification window **98**, first external pocket **108**, second external pocket **110**, and pocket **114** may be configured to receive folded paper currency, in addition to or instead of at least one personal card **18**.

The open-sided shell **12**, **13** may comprise any metal material. In many embodiments, the open-sided shell **12**, **13** comprises aluminum, and the personal card receiving surface **14**, **15** comprises carbon fiber. The open-sided shell **12**, **13** may comprise powder-coated aluminum. The open-sided shell **12**, **13** and the personal card receiving surface **14**, **15** may comprise the same material. The rivets **112**, **113** may comprise any metal material, such as stainless steel. A person having ordinary skill in the art of wallet design and manufacturing may not see the use of CNC-machined metal as an obvious choice, and may instead look to plastic or other similar hard materials to create the open-sided shell **12**, **13** and associated elements (personal card receiving surface **14**, **15**, rivets **112**, **113**, etc.). However, this disclosure includes metal material(s) for the open-sided shell **12**, **13** in order to create a more durable and higher quality (in look and feel) product than what would be produced using plastic or a similar material.

FIG. 42 illustrates a perspective view of a wallet 10c. As shown, the wallet 10c may include an open-sided shell 118 with a personal card receiving surface 120, as well as a flexible member 132. In some embodiments, the open-sided shell 118 is substantially the same as the open-sided shell 12, 13 shown in earlier Figures and previously discussed in this disclosure. In addition, the personal card receiving surface 120 may be substantially the same as the personal card receiving surface 14, 15 previously discussed in this disclosure. For example, the open-sided shell 118 and personal card receiving surface 120 may be configured to securely couple at least one personal card in a manner substantially the same as that shown in, and discussed with reference to, FIGS. 12-18 and 38-40. The flexible member 132 may differ from the flexible member 22, as will be discussed in greater detail with reference to FIGS. 45-47.

FIG. 43 shows another interior view of the wallet 10c, and includes more detail about the elements of the wallet 10c. In some embodiments, as demonstrated in FIG. 43, the open-sided shell 118 comprises a first side wall 126, a second side wall 128 located opposite the first side wall 126, and a bottom side wall 130 extending between the first side wall 126 and the second side wall 128. In the same way that the open-sided shell 118 may be substantially the same as the open-sided shell 12, 13, it should be noted that the side walls 126, 128, 130 of the wallet 10c may be substantially the same as the corresponding side walls 50 (of the wallet 10a) and 51 (of the wallet 10b). In some embodiments, the first side wall 126, second side wall 128, and bottom side wall 130 are configured to retain the at least one personal card (not shown in FIG. 43) in place within the internal portion 124 of the open-sided shell 118 (i.e., adjacent and/or against the personal card receiving surface 120).

FIG. 43 also illustrates the first protruding portion 158a and the second protruding portion 158b. Similar to the other elements of the open-sided shell 118, the first and second protruding portions 158a, 158b may be substantially the same as the first and second protruding portions 58a, 58b of the first and second retention tabs 52a, 52b previously discussed in this disclosure. For example, the first and second protruding portions 158a, 158b may be configured to move between a locked position and a receiving position in order to receive and retain at least one personal card, as illustrated in FIGS. 12 and 13. Further, in order to couple to the open-sided shell 118, the at least one personal card may be inserted “over” the first and second protruding portions 158a, 158b, using the “angled” method as shown and discussed with reference to FIGS. 16-18.

FIG. 44 shows the same view as FIG. 43 and illustrates that, in some embodiments, the bottom side wall 130 comprises a first bottom side wall portion 152a and a second bottom side wall portion 152b. The first bottom side wall portion 152a may define a first width and the second bottom side wall portion 152b may define a second width. In some embodiments, the first width is less than the second width. This is similar to the left and right side retaining surfaces 78a, 78b of the wallet 10a—illustrated in FIGS. 24 and 25B—where the left side retaining surface 78a defines a left side width 86a that is less than the right side width 86b of the right side retaining surface 78b. Further, and also similar to the wallets 10a, 10b, the wallet 10c may comprise an open clearance area 154 located between the first bottom side wall portion 152a and the second bottom side wall portion 152b, as illustrated in FIG. 44. In some embodiments, the open clearance area 154 is configured to receive a user’s finger to thereby push at least one personal card away from the bottom side wall 130 so that the at least one personal card

may be removed from the wallet 10c. The open clearance area 154 may be substantially the same as the open clearance area 70, 71 previously discussed in this disclosure.

As shown in FIGS. 43 and 44, the flexible member 132 may include an internal surface 134. In some embodiments, the flexible member 132 has an external surface 136 facing opposite the internal surface 134, shown in FIG. 45. The flexible member 132 may also define a bottom half 138 and a top half 140 located opposite the bottom half 138. In some embodiments, the internal surface 134 of the bottom half 138 is coupled to the back surface 122 of the open-sided shell 118, as shown. The internal surface 134 of the top half 140 may comprise a pocket configured to receive and retain at least one personal card. In some embodiments, the internal surface 134 of the top half 140 comprises a pocket configured to hold and display an identification card (i.e., an “identification window”), shown in FIGS. 42-44. Of course, any suitable personal card(s) and/or paper currency may be held and displayed in the pocket of the internal surface 134 of the top half 140.

FIG. 45 further displays that, in some embodiments, the wallet 10c includes a pull tab 142 extending from an opening 146 in the external surface 136 of the flexible member 132. As shown in FIGS. 46 and 47, the pull tab 142 may be configured to facilitate removal of at least one personal card 18 from a pocket 148 coupled to the external surface 136. Because it facilitates movement of the at least one personal card 18, the pull tab 142 may be considered an actuation portion 238. In some embodiments, the pull tab 142 defines a first portion 144a and a second portion 144b. The first portion 144a may comprise a material substantially similar to that of the flexible member 132 (e.g., leather, DTEX, or other suitable material), while the second portion 144b may comprise a more ribbon or strap-like structure. In some embodiments, the pull tab 142 is configured to move between a first position 150a, as shown in FIG. 46, and a second position 150b, as shown in FIG. 47.

In the first position 150a, the first portion 144a of the pull tab 142 may be configured to extend from the opening 146 in the external surface 136 of the flexible member 132, while the second portion 144b may be located at least partially within the flexible member 132. In some embodiments, in the first position 150a, the at least one personal card 18 is located within the pocket 148. The second portion 144b of the pull tab may also be located within the pocket 148.

In the second position 150b, both the first portion 144a and the second portion 144b of the pull tab 142 may extend from the opening 146, and the at least one personal card 18 may be configured to extend from the pocket 148 for removal, as illustrated in FIG. 47. In order to move from the first position 150a to the second position 150b, a user may tug the pull tab 142 away from the opening 146, thereby extending the pull tab 142 from the opening 146 and partially removing the at least one personal card 18 from the pocket 148. In some embodiments, to restore the pull tab 142 back to the first position 150a, a user inserts the at least one personal card 18 back into the pocket 148, and the movement of the at least one personal card 18 within the pocket 148 is configured to retract the pull tab 142, particularly the second portion 144b of the pull tab 142, back into the opening 146.

FIG. 48 shows a perspective view of the wallet 10c in a closed position, featuring the top half 140 of the flexible member 132 closed on top of the open-sided shell 118. FIGS. 48 and 49 illustrate that, in some embodiments, the wallet 10c includes a stretchable band 156 configured to wrap around the open-sided shell 118 and the bottom half

138 of the flexible member 132, as shown in FIG. 49. The stretchable band 156 may be configured to securably couple at least one personal card against at least one of the personal card receiving surface 120 and the external surface 136 of the flexible member 132. Depending on the configuration of the stretchable band 156 (e.g., if oriented as shown in FIGS. 3 and 5), it may also be configured to couple at least one personal card, paper currency, or other similar item(s) against the internal surface 134 of the flexible member 132. Similar to the elastic band 32, the stretchable band 156 may comprise two ends coupled to the top half 140 of the flexible member 132. It should also be noted that though not labeled in the figures, the wallet 10c may include a pocket located on the bottom half 138 of the external surface 136 of the flexible member 132, opposite the open-sided shell 118.

FIG. 50 illustrates a wallet 10d comprising an open-sided shell 160, a flexible member 174, a stretchable band 184, and a radiofrequency identification (RFID) protection plate 186. It should be noted that the stretchable band 184 may resemble the stretchable band 156 (i.e., it may be a narrower band than shown in FIG. 50). In some embodiments, as shown in FIG. 51, the open-sided shell 160 has a personal card receiving surface 162, wherein the open-sided shell 160 is configured to securably couple at least one personal card 18 along the personal card receiving surface 162 within the internal portion 166 of the open-sided shell 160. The RFID protection plate 186 may be coupled to the open-sided shell 160 between the personal card receiving surface 162 and the stretchable band 184. In some embodiments, the tension applied to the RFID protection plate 186 by the stretchable band 184 is configured to retain at least one personal card 18 against the personal card receiving surface 162, as demonstrated in FIG. 51.

FIG. 52 shows an exterior view of the wallet 10d in an open position. Similar to the flexible members 22, 132 previously discussed in this disclosure, the flexible member may include an internal surface 176 (shown in FIG. 53) and an external surface 178 facing opposite the internal surface 176. In some embodiments, the flexible member 174 defines a bottom half 180 and a top half 182 located opposite the bottom half 180. The internal surface 176 of the bottom half 180 may be coupled to the back surface 164 of the open-sided shell 160.

Also illustrated in FIG. 52 are a first exterior pocket 194 and a second exterior pocket 196. In some embodiments, the wallet 10d comprises a first exterior pocket 194 coupled to the top half 182 of the flexible member 174 and located along the external surface 178 of the flexible member 174. The first exterior pocket 194 may be configured to receive and retain at least one personal card 18. In some embodiments, the wallet 10d also includes a second exterior pocket 196 coupled to the bottom half 180 of the flexible member 174 and located along the external surface 178 of the flexible member 174 opposite the open-sided shell 160. Like the first exterior pocket 194, the second exterior pocket 196 may be configured to receive and retain at least one personal card 18.

In some embodiments, the first exterior pocket 194 includes an open clearance area, shown in FIG. 52 as the "U" shaped element at the top of the wallet 10d. Similar to the open clearance areas 70, 71, 154 previously discussed in this disclosure, the open clearance area of the first exterior pocket 194 may be used to facilitate removal of at least one personal card 18 from the first exterior pocket 194. Likewise, the second exterior pocket 196 may include a smaller open clearance area, shown toward the bottom of FIG. 52. The second exterior pocket 196 may also include an aper-

ture, represented by the five-sided element in the center of the bottom half 180 of the flexible member 174. In some embodiments, the aperture allows a user to view the at least one personal card 18 located within the second exterior pocket 196, and may also facilitate removal of the at least one personal card 18 by allowing a user to contact the card 18 through the aperture, and slide it toward the opening of the second exterior pocket 196. As shown in FIG. 52, the second exterior pocket 196 may also include two side cut-outs (e.g., where the arrow is pointing for the bottom half 180) for similar viewing and contact purposes as the center aperture.

The second exterior pocket 196 may be coupled to the flexible member 174 via stitching, indicated by the even broken lines shown in FIG. 52. Further, in some embodiments, the second exterior pocket 196 is coupled to the open-sided shell 160 via a plurality of rivets 198, also shown in FIG. 52. The plurality of rivets 198 may be substantially similar to the rivets 112, 113 previously discussed in this disclosure. The stitching and the plurality of rivets 198 may extend around a perimeter of the bottom half 180 of the flexible member 174, as shown. In some embodiments, the first exterior pocket 194 is coupled to the flexible member 174 via stitching extending along a perimeter of the top half 182 of the flexible member 174.

As illustrated in FIG. 53, the wallet 10d may further comprise an interior pocket 192 coupled to the top half 182 of the flexible member 174 and located along the internal surface 176 of the flexible member 174. In some embodiments, the interior pocket 192 is located opposite the first exterior pocket 194, and is configured to receive and retain at least one personal card 18. Similar to the second exterior pocket 196, the interior pocket 192 may include a central aperture for viewing and/or contacting the at least one personal card 18 located within the interior pocket 192. In some embodiments, the interior pocket 192 is coupled to the flexible member 174 via stitching extending along a perimeter of the top half 182 of the flexible member 174, in a manner similar to the first exterior pocket 194.

FIG. 53 also includes more details about the open-sided shell 160. In some embodiments, the open-sided shell 160 comprises a first side wall 168, a second side wall 170 located opposite the first side wall 168, and a bottom side wall 172 extending between the first side wall 168 and the second side wall 170. The first side wall 168, second side wall 170, and bottom side wall 172 may be configured to retain at least one personal card 18 with respect to the personal card receiving surface 162. FIG. 53 also shows the stretchable band 184. In some embodiments, the stretchable band 184 is configured to wrap around the open-sided shell 160 and is configured to securably couple at least one personal card 18 against the personal card receiving surface 162. Though not shown in the Figures, the stretchable band 184 may also be configured to wrap around the bottom half 180 of the flexible member 174, similar to the stretchable band 156 of the wallet 10c shown in FIG. 49. In some embodiments, when wrapped around the bottom half 180 of the flexible member 174, the stretchable band 184 is configured to securably couple at least one personal card 18 against the external surface 178 of the flexible member 174. In addition to securing the at least one personal card 18, the stretchable band 184 may also couple paper currency, receipts, or other similar items against at least one of the external surface 178, the RFID protection plate 186, and the personal card receiving surface 162.

FIG. 53 includes a directional indicator showing a first direction, a second direction, and a third direction. In some

embodiments, the first side wall 168 and the second side wall 170 are elongate along the first direction, and the bottom side wall 172 is elongate along the second direction perpendicular to the first direction. The stretchable band 184 may wrap around the open-sided shell 160 along the second direction. In some embodiments, the RFID protection plate 186 is configured to move along the third direction perpendicular to the first direction and the second direction to securably couple at least one personal card 18 between the RFID protection plate 186 and the personal card receiving surface 162. In addition, the stretchable band 184 may be configured to extend along the third direction to couple at least one personal card and at least one paper bill between the stretchable band 184 and the flexible member 174 and/or the RFID protection plate 186.

In some embodiments, at least one of the open-sided shell 160 and the RFID protection plate 186 comprise an open clearance area 188. For example, as shown in FIG. 53, the open clearance area 188 may be located along a bottom portion 190 of the RFID protection plate 186. In some embodiments, similar to the open clearance areas previously discussed in this disclosure, the open clearance area 188 is configured to receive a user's finger to thereby push the at least one personal card 18 away from the bottom portion 190 such that the at least one personal card 18 may be removed from the wallet 10d.

Turning now to FIG. 54, an embodiment of a wallet 10e is shown. The wallet 10c may comprise an open-sided shell 200 having a first personal card receiving surface 202 defining an internal portion 206, and a stretchable band 222. In some embodiments, the wallet 10e further comprises a second personal card receiving surface 204, shown in FIG. 55, facing opposite the first personal card receiving surface 202. The open-sided shell 200 may be configured to securably couple at least one personal card 18 along the first personal card receiving surface 202 and the second personal card receiving surface 204 within an internal portion 206 of the open-sided shell 200.

As shown in FIGS. 54 and 55, the wallet 10e may comprise a stretchable band 222 configured to wrap around the open-sided shell 200. In some embodiments, the stretchable band 222 is configured to securably couple at least one personal card 18 against at least one of the first personal card receiving surface 202 and the second personal card receiving surface 204. As indicated in FIG. 55, the wallet 10e may also include an RFID protection plate 224 coupled to the open-sided shell 200. In some embodiments, the RFID protection plate 224 is located between the second personal card receiving surface 204 and the stretchable band 222, and is configured to securably couple at least one personal card 18 between the RFID protection plate 224 and the second personal card receiving surface 204. It should be noted that the RFID protection plate 224 may be substantially the same as the RFID protection plate 186 of the wallet 10d. In some embodiments, both RFID protection plates 186, 224 are composed of a material sufficient to block RFID signals, such as aluminum or another suitable metallic material. In addition, as discussed with reference to FIG. 53, the stretchable band 222 may be configured to securably couple at least one personal card 18, at least one paper bill, etc. against the RFID protection plate 224 between the stretchable band 222 and the RFID protection plate 224.

FIG. 56 illustrates the side of the open-sided shell 200 including the first personal card receiving surface 202. In some embodiments, the first personal card receiving surface 202 comprises a first side wall 208, a second side wall 210 located opposite the first side wall 208, and a first bottom

side wall 212 extending between the first side wall 208 and the second side wall 210. The first side wall 208, second side wall 210, and first bottom side wall 212 may be configured to retain at least one personal card 18 in place with respect to the first personal card receiving surface 202. In some embodiments, as shown in FIG. 56, the wallet 10e includes an open clearance area 226 located along a bottom portion of the open-sided shell 200, adjacent the first bottom side wall 212. Like the other open clearance areas 70, 71, 154, and 188 previously discussed in this disclosure, the open clearance area 226 may be configured to receive a user's finger to push at least one personal card 18 away from the bottom portion of the open-sided shell 200 to facilitate removal of the at least one personal card 18.

In some embodiments, as shown in FIG. 56, the wallet 10e further comprises a first protruding portion 220a and a second protruding portion 220b. As discussed with reference to the wallet 10c of FIG. 43, the first and second protruding portions 220a, 220b may be substantially the same as the first and second protruding portions 58a, 58b of the first and second retention tabs 52a, 52b previously discussed in this disclosure. For example, the first and second protruding portions 220a, 220b may be configured to move between a locked position and a receiving position in order to receive and retain at least one personal card, as illustrated in FIGS. 12 and 13. Further, in order to couple to the open-sided shell 200, the at least one personal card may be inserted "over" the first and second protruding portions 220a, 220b, using the "angled" method as shown and discussed with reference to FIGS. 16-18.

FIG. 57 shows a view of the wallet 10e including the second personal card receiving surface 204. In some embodiments, the second personal card receiving surface 204 comprises a third side wall 214, a fourth side wall 216 located opposite the third side wall 214, and a second bottom side wall 218 extending between the third side wall 214 and the fourth side wall 216. The third side wall 214, fourth side wall 216, and second bottom side wall 218, along with the RFID protection plate 224 and stretchable band 222, may be configured to securably couple at least one personal card 18 in place with respect to the second personal card receiving surface 204. FIG. 57 also shows the open clearance area located along the bottom portion 228 of the RFID protection plate 224.

FIG. 58 illustrates another embodiment of the wallet 10e. In some embodiments, as shown in FIG. 58, the wallet 10e further comprises a pocket 232 detachably coupled to the open-sided shell 200. The pocket 232 may be coupled adjacent the second personal card receiving surface 204 and may be configured to receive at least one personal card 18. In some embodiments, as demonstrated in FIG. 58, the pocket 232 comprises an opening 234 configured to receive a pull tab 236. It should be noted that the pocket 232, opening 234, and pull tab 236 may be substantially similar to the pocket 148, opening 146, and pull tab 142 of the wallet 10c. Accordingly, the pull tab 236 may be configured move between a first position and second position, as illustrated in and discussed with reference to FIGS. 46 and 47, in order to facilitate removal of the at least one personal card 18 from the pocket 232. Because it facilitates movement of the at least one personal card 18, the pull tab 236 may be considered an actuation portion 238. The pocket 232 may be configured to detachably couple to the open-sided shell 200 adjacent the first personal card receiving surface 202, rather than the second personal card receiving surface 204.

FIG. 58 also includes at least one aperture 230. In some embodiments, the wallet 10e further comprises at least one

aperture 230 located along a perimeter of the open-sided shell 200. The at least one aperture 230 may be configured to receive an attaching mechanism to thereby couple the wallet 10e to at least one of a key, a lanyard, and a tether. Example attaching mechanisms include, but are not limited to, a keyring, a carabiner, a clasp, and any other suitable mechanism to facilitate coupling of the wallet 10e to an external element, such as a key, chain, belt loop, lanyard, etc.

It should be noted that the wallets 10a, 10b, and 10c may be considered as defining a “landscape” or “horizontal” orientation, with regard to how the at least one personal card 18 couples to the open-sided shell 118. Stated differently, when the wallets 10a, 10b, and/or 10c are held open to read information on the at least one personal card 18, the height of the open-sided shells 12, 13, 118 is less than the width. In contrast, FIGS. 50-58 illustrate embodiments of a wallet 10d and a wallet 10e, which have “portrait” or “vertical” orientations such that a typical credit card, gift card, business card, or the like, is rotated 90° for insertion. It is not the intention of the Figures or the disclosure to limit the wallets 10a-e to these specific orientations. For example, the open-sided shell 118 of the wallet 10c may be configured to resemble the open-sided shell 200 of the wallet 10e, as shown in FIG. 54, and remain suitable to securely retain at least one personal card 18.

Further, some elements, like the at least one aperture 230 shown in FIG. 58, may also be found in embodiments of the wallets 10a, 10b, and/or 10c not explicitly shown in the Figures. For example, in some embodiments, first side wall 126 of the wallet 10c comprises a first aperture and a second aperture. The first aperture may be configured to receive an attaching mechanism to thereby couple the wallet 10c to at least one of a key, lanyard, tether, or other similar mechanism. In some embodiments, the second side wall 128 comprises a third aperture, and the second and third apertures are configured to receive the stretchable band 156.

Interpretation

None of the steps described herein is essential or indispensable. Any of the steps can be adjusted or modified. Other or additional steps can be used. Any portion of any of the steps, processes, structures, and/or devices disclosed or illustrated in one embodiment, flowchart, or example in this specification can be combined or used with or instead of any other portion of any of the steps, processes, structures, and/or devices disclosed or illustrated in a different embodiment, flowchart, or example. The embodiments and examples provided herein are not intended to be discrete and separate from each other.

The section headings and subheadings provided herein are nonlimiting. The section headings and subheadings do not represent or limit the full scope of the embodiments described in the sections to which the headings and sub-headings pertain. For example, a section titled “Topic 1” may include embodiments that do not pertain to Topic 1 and embodiments described in other sections may apply to and be combined with embodiments described within the “Topic 1” section.

The various features and processes described above may be used independently of one another, or may be combined in various ways. All possible combinations and subcombinations are intended to fall within the scope of this disclosure. In addition, certain method, event, state, or process blocks may be omitted in some implementations. The methods, steps, and processes described herein are also not limited to any particular sequence, and the blocks, steps, or states relating thereto can be performed in other sequences that are appropriate. For example, described tasks or events

may be performed in an order other than the order specifically disclosed. Multiple steps may be combined in a single block or state. The example tasks or events may be performed in serial, in parallel, or in some other manner. Tasks or events may be added to or removed from the disclosed example embodiments. The example systems and components described herein may be configured differently than described. For example, elements may be added to, removed from, or rearranged compared to the disclosed example embodiments.

Conditional language used herein, such as, among others, “can,” “could,” “might,” “may,” “e.g.,” and the like, unless specifically stated otherwise, or otherwise understood within the context as used, is generally intended to convey that certain embodiments include, while other embodiments do not include, certain features, elements and/or steps. Thus, such conditional language is not generally intended to imply that features, elements and/or steps are in any way required for one or more embodiments or that one or more embodiments necessarily include logic for deciding, with or without author input or prompting, whether these features, elements and/or steps are included or are to be performed in any particular embodiment. The terms “comprising,” “including,” “having,” and the like are synonymous and are used inclusively, in an open-ended fashion, and do not exclude additional elements, features, acts, operations and so forth. Also, the term “or” is used in its inclusive sense (and not in its exclusive sense) so that when used, for example, to connect a list of elements, the term “or” means one, some, or all of the elements in the list. Conjunctive language such as the phrase “at least one of X, Y, and Z,” unless specifically stated otherwise, is otherwise understood with the context as used in general to convey that an item, term, etc. may be either X, Y, or Z. Thus, such conjunctive language is not generally intended to imply that certain embodiments require at least one of X, at least one of Y, and at least one of Z to each be present.

The term “and/or” means that “and” applies to some embodiments and “or” applies to some embodiments. Thus, A, B, and/or C can be replaced with A, B, and C written in one sentence and A, B, or C written in another sentence. A, B, and/or C means that some embodiments can include A and B, some embodiments can include A and C, some embodiments can include B and C, some embodiments can only include A, some embodiments can include only B, some embodiments can include only C, and some embodiments include A, B, and C. The term “and/or” is used to avoid unnecessary redundancy.

The term “about” is used to mean “approximately.” For example, the disclosure includes, “In some embodiments, the difference between the first distance 64a and second distance 64b is about a few millimeters.” In this context, “about a few millimeters” is used to mean “approximately” a few millimeters. A range of 1-10 millimeters falls into an acceptable range and interpretation of “about a few millimeters,” as used in this disclosure.

The term “substantially” is used to mean “completely” or “nearly completely.” For example, the disclosure includes, “When the wallet is in the open position, the flexible member may be configured to lay substantially flat . . . ” In this context, “substantially flat” is used to mean that the flexible member may lay “completely” flat or “nearly completely” flat, and fall into the understanding of “substantially” as used in this disclosure. It is understood that the flexible member may or may not lay “completely” flat, depending on a number of factors, including position of the elastic band and number of cards coupled to the identifica-

tion window and/or second external pocket. In many embodiments, when the wallet is in the open position, the flexible member may be considered to lay substantially flat.

While certain example embodiments have been described, these embodiments have been presented by way of example only, and are not intended to limit the scope of the inventions disclosed herein. Thus, nothing in the foregoing description is intended to imply that any particular feature, characteristic, step, module, or block is necessary or indispensable. Indeed, the novel methods and systems described herein may be embodied in a variety of other forms; furthermore, various omissions, substitutions, and changes in the form of the methods and systems described herein may be made without departing from the spirit of the inventions disclosed herein.

What is claimed is:

1. A wallet comprising:

a flexible member having a personal card receiving surface and a back surface facing opposite the personal card receiving surface, the flexible member configured to securably couple at least one personal card along the personal card receiving surface within an internal portion of the flexible member, wherein the flexible member comprises:

a first pocket configured to retain the at least one personal card in place with respect to the personal card receiving surface; and

a second pocket configured to retain an identification card, the second pocket comprising an identification window; and

a pull tab coupled to the flexible member and located opposite the first pocket, the pull tab configured to move between a first position and a second position, wherein in the first position the at least one personal card is retained within the wallet, and in the second position the at least one personal card is at least partially protruding from the wallet.

2. The wallet of claim 1, further comprising an opening in the flexible member, wherein the pull tab is configured to extend from the opening.

3. The wallet of claim 2, wherein the pull tab defines a first portion and a second portion,

wherein in the first position, the first portion of the pull tab is configured to extend from the opening and the second portion of the pull tab is located at least partially within the flexible member, and the at least one personal card is retained within the wallet, and

wherein in the second position, the first portion of the pull tab and the second portion of the pull tab are configured to extend from the opening, and the at least one personal card is configured to at least partially protrude from the wallet.

4. The wallet of claim 1, wherein the pull tab is coupled to an interior surface of the flexible member.

5. The wallet of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first pocket and the second pocket includes a stitched edge.

6. The wallet of claim 1, further comprising a third pocket located on the back surface of the flexible member and configured to receive the at least one personal card, the third

pocket comprising an open clearance area configured to receive a user's finger to thereby push the at least one personal card out of the third pocket such that the at least one personal card may be removed from the wallet.

7. The wallet of claim 1, wherein the identification window includes an aperture configured to allow a user to contact the identification card retained within the second pocket.

8. The wallet of claim 3, wherein the first portion comprises a first material and the second portion comprises a second material.

9. The wallet of claim 8, wherein the flexible member comprises the first material.

10. The wallet of claim 8, wherein the first material is different from the second material.

11. The wallet of claim 3, wherein the pull tab is configured to move from the first position to the second position when the first portion of the pull tab is pulled away from the opening in the flexible member.

20 12. The wallet of claim 11, wherein the pull tab is configured to move from the second position to the first position when the at least one personal card is inserted into the wallet.

13. The wallet of claim 1, wherein the first pocket comprises a shell having a receiving surface and a back surface facing opposite the receiving surface, the shell configured to securably couple the at least one personal card along the receiving surface within an internal portion of the shell.

25 14. The wallet of claim 13, wherein the shell comprises a first side wall, a second side wall located opposite the first side wall, and a bottom side wall extending between the first side wall and the second side wall, whereby the first side wall, the second side wall, and the bottom side wall are configured to retain the at least one personal card in place with respect to the receiving surface.

15. The wallet of claim 13, wherein the shell is coupled to the flexible member along the personal card receiving surface such that the back surface of the shell is located adjacent the personal card receiving surface of the flexible member.

40 16. The wallet of claim 14, further comprising at least one protruding portion coupled to the first side wall, the at least one protruding portion configured to receive and retain the at least one personal card.

17. The wallet of claim 16, wherein the at least one protruding portion is coupled to the first side wall and configured to move away from the second side wall.

18. The wallet of claim 13, wherein the shell comprises a radio frequency identification (RFID) blocking material.

19. The wallet of claim 13, wherein the shell comprises a front retaining surface extending around at least a portion of a perimeter of the personal card receiving surface.

20. The wallet of claim 19, wherein the front retaining surface extends substantially parallel to the personal card receiving surface and is configured to cover at least a portion of a front surface of the at least one personal card received by the shell.