



**DEFENSE HEALTH AGENCY
673D MEDICAL GROUP (MDG)
5955 ZEAMER AVE
JBER, AK 99506**

2/10/25

MEMORANDUM FOR 673d MDG Beneficiaries

FROM: 673 MDG/HIPAA Privacy Officer

SUBJECT: Substitute Breach Notification

On 3 January 2025, the 673d MDG discovered that the medical records of approximately 20 beneficiaries which contained Personally Identifiable Information and Protected Health Information may have been compromised. On January 3, 2025, a 673d MDG staff member improperly disposed of the medical records into trash instead of a locked shred bin for proper disposal.

Upon discovery, the 673d MDG immediately began an investigation and determined a staff member improperly disposed the medical records. To mitigate this incident and prevent future similar occurrences, the staff member was educated on the proper disposal of medical records, instructed to complete remedial HIPAA Training, and a MDG all notification was sent to staff members to prevent future occurrences.

While there is no evidence to indicate that any personal information was used in a malicious manner, it is the Department of Defense and the 673d MDG's policy to notify individuals of any event that may affect their privacy.

Concerned individuals should be guided by the actions recommended by the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/>. The FTC site provides instructions for placing a free fraud alerts and other valuable information regarding actions that can be taken now or in the future should any problems develop.

We have taken additional measures to assist our beneficiaries who may be concerned if they were impacted by this breach. Affected individuals may contact the 673d MDG HIPAA Privacy Officers Ms. Michelle Elmore or MSgt Katelynn Jozwiak at 907-580-2112.

Sincerely,

BAUGH.LAURA.

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**LAURA M. BAUGH, Colonel, USAF, MC
Commander, 673 Medical Group**

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