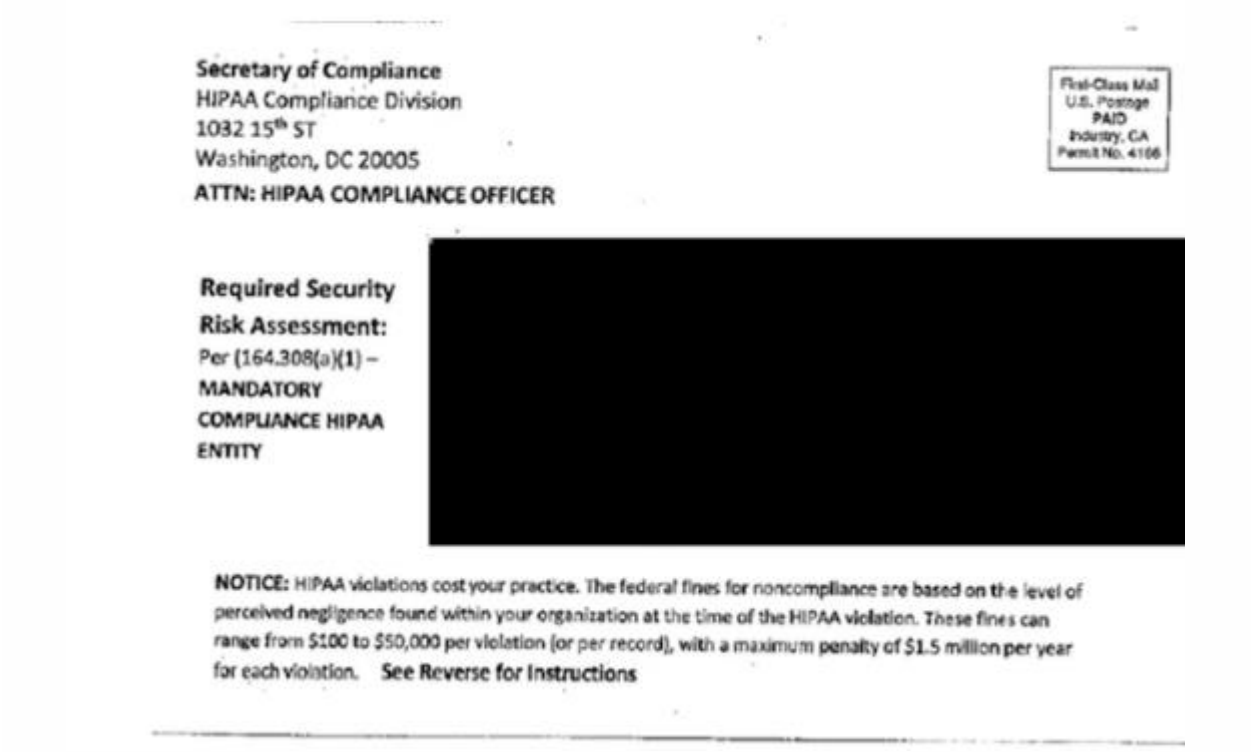
THREAT BULLETINS

Misleading Postcard Disguised as Official OCR Communication

TLP:WHITE

Apr 26, 2021

On April 26, 2021, HHS Office for Civil Rights in Action (OCR) was made aware of postcards being sent to healthcare organizations advising recipients that they are required to participate in a "Required Security Risk Assessment" which can be completed at www[.]hsaudit.org. The link directs individuals to a non-governmental website marketing consulting services.



Please be advised that these postcard notifications did not come from OCR or the US Department of Health and Human Services. The misleading communication is from a private entity – it is NOT an HHS/OCR communication.

Suspected incidents of individuals posing as federal law enforcement should be reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Analysis:

HIPAA covered entities and business associates should alert their workforce members to this misleading communication. Covered entities and business associates can verify that a communication is from OCR by looking for the OCR address or email address, which will end in @hhs.gov, on any communication that purports to be from OCR, and asking for a confirming email from the OCR investigator's hhs.gov email address.

The addresses for OCR's HQ and Regional Offices are available on the OCR website at https://www.hhs.gov/ocr/about-us/contact-us/index.html, and all OCR email addresses will end in @hhs.gov.

If organizations have additional questions or concerns, please send an email to: OCRMail@hhs.gov.

Info Source	Intel Agency (FBI, NSA, etc.)

Sources
Misleading HIPAA Postcard Warning

Postcard Disguised as Official OCR Communication

Alert: Fake Postcard Disguised as OCR Communication

OCR warns hospitals of HIPAA compliance scams

OCR Warns of Postal Scam Targeting HIPAA Compliance Officers

Alert ID d534f704

View Alert

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