

FOUNDED ON CARE • BUILT ON TRUST

January 7, 2021

This posting is to provide notification of an incident of which we became aware on November 20, 2020 that may compromise the privacy of an individual's health information. An individual sent an inquiry through Summit Healthcare Association's public website, revealing the individual's name, email address and medical condition. Unfortunately, that email was sent in error to a group email address rather than a Summit Healthcare staff member as intended.

The email address provided by the individual was undeliverable, and we have no other contact information. Summit has taken exhaustive measures to try to locate the individual who sent this inquiry, including internet searches, telephone calls, emails, research, and posting a notice in our local newspaper. We have taken appropriate action to address this error internally, pursuant to our disciplinary standards.

Please be assured that we have no knowledge of or reason to believe that this individual's information has been misused by anyone. However, it is important that you be aware of this incident so that you can exercise caution and be alert to suspicious activity that could result. You may wish to take the following steps to protect your information:

You are entitled to a free annual credit report, by going to <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u> or by calling toll-free (877) 322-8228.

If you believe someone is using your personal information, visit <u>www.IdentityTheft.gov</u> to report identity theft and get a recovery plan.

You can also call the toll-free numbers of any of the three major credit bureaus to place a *fraud alert* and/or *security freeze* on your credit report. A fraud alert will notify lenders that you may be a victim of identity theft, while a security freeze prevents new lenders from accessing your credit report until you lift the freeze from your account. Below is contact information for all three credit bureaus:

- Equifax: (888) 685-1111, <u>www.equifax.com</u>, Equifax Information Services, LLC, P.O. Box 740256, Atlanta, GA. 30348.
- Experian: (888) 397-3742, <u>www.experian.com</u>, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX. 75013.
- TransUnion: (800) 916-8800 or (888) 909-8872, <u>www.transunion.com</u>, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA. 30348

If you have any other questions or concerns, please contact me at (928) 537-6939 or via email at <u>Natalie.Roehlk@summithealthcare.net</u>.

We trust you will know through our actions as outlined above that we take patient privacy and our obligation to safeguard your health information seriously, and we sincerely apologize for this error. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,

Natalie Roehlk, CHC, CHPC HIPAA Privacy Officer Compliance and Risk Management Summit Healthcare