Re: Notification regarding Protected Health Information (PHI)

The Ohio Mental Health and Addiction Services’ (OhioMHAS) is providing this notice concerning a data breach pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA).

On March 27, 2019, OhioMHAS discovered that in 2018 an employee sent photos via text messages containing names and potentially identifying those individuals as residents of residential care facilities. Although all the intended recipients of the text messages were OhioMHAS staff and were authorized to receive the information, the text messages were sent without encryption.

Though the risk is low that the text messages was retrieved by anyone else, federal law requires that OhioMHAS provide notification of this failure to follow policy. If you have concerns that your information may have been included in this breach, please contact Jim Lapczynski OhioMHAS Privacy Officer at 1-877-275-6364 or at james.lapczynski@mha.ohio.gov.