



STATE OF NH
DEPT OF JUSTICE
2017 JAN 27 AM 10: 20

January 25, 2017

Mr. Joseph Foster
Office of the Attorney General
33 Capitol Street
Concord, NH 03301

RE: Notice of Breach

Dear Mr. Foster,

Northeast Rehabilitation Hospital Network takes the Privacy and Security of our patient information seriously and takes steps to ensure the confidentiality of that information. For that reason it is important that we notify you of the following. .

On January 17, 2017, I became aware that an employee was being treated as an Outpatient at Northeast Rehabilitation Hospital. Hospital procedure and in compliance with HIPAA Administrative Safeguards, Information System Activity Review® 164.308(a) (ii) (D) requires that hospital system audits from unauthorized access must be periodically completed. NRHN's priority for an audit is a known employee or high profile case that has been admitted to any of our facilities or clinics. The result of the audit of the electronic information determined that 1 employee had accessed another employee's account information 6 times, with 5 of those 6 being unauthorized.

On Tuesday January 17, 2017 I met and discussed the incident with the patient and the patient's co-workers', the unauthorized access of any patient Protected Health Information either electronically or in hard copy.


The information that was accessed included the following:

Name
Account Number
Medical Record Number
Age
Location
Admit date
Visit Dates for billing purposes
Insurance
Physician

Consistent with our data privacy and security policies, and despite procedure we have in place and the training we require employee to receive, we are taking steps to remind all employee about the protection of Protected Health Information during the course of business. We treat all sensitive patient information in a confidential manner and are proactive in the careful handling of such information. We continue to assess and modify our privacy and data security policies and procedures to prevent similar situations from occurring.

Please feel free to contact me at 603.681.3045 with any question you may have concerning this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Maura Gallant". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Maura Gallant
Director of HIM/Privacy Officer