



Department of Veterans Affairs

Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center
4815 North Assembly Street
Spokane, WA 99205-6197

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 2017

CONTACT: Bret Bowers
Public Affairs Officer
Phone: (509) 434-7378

Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center to Notify Veterans of Potentially Compromised Personal Information

Spokane, WA– The Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center (MGVAMC) in Spokane notified 1915 Veterans whose Protected Health Information (PHI) was potentially compromised. On July 18, 2017, two USB hard drives containing personally-identifiable Veteran information were stolen from a Veterans Health Administration (VHA) contract employee conducting a service call at the Oklahoma City VA Medical Center. A theft report was filed with the local VA Oklahoma City Police Department. One of the stolen USB hard drives was the Master Drive used by the contract employee to copy and move the Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center's Anesthesia Record Keeper (ARK) database from a standalone, non-networked, physical VA server being decommissioned to the Virtual Machine archive server during the week of January 16, 2017.

Although we cannot say for certain what information was stored on the stolen USB hard drive, we are alerting every Veteran whose personal information resides on the decommissioned ARK server. We have determined the information at possible risk may include full names, social security numbers, addresses, phone contacts, surgical and insurance information.

Honoring and serving America's Veterans is our utmost priority. We at VA take information security very seriously and will continue to work to ensure that appropriate safeguards are in place to protect your information. Leadership has developed a new media sanitization policy to prevent this from happening in the future.

Every Veteran whose personal information resides on the decommissioned ARK server will receive a letter of notification and, where appropriate, an offer of credit monitoring for one year at no charge. Veterans with questions about this incident may write to

Mann-Grandstaff VA Medical Center
ATTN: Privacy Officer
4815 North Assembly Street
Spokane, WA 99205-6197

#