



## Red Flag Rule Compliance and OIG Limits the Provider Self-Disclosure Protocol

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Identity thieves are increasingly targeting medical records because they provide an abundance of financial information including billing addresses, birthdates, social security numbers, credit information and health insurance account numbers. New Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") regulations ("Red Flag Rules") place the burden on health care providers to protect their patients by implementing new privacy and security policies and procedures to prevent identity theft. These policies and procedures must be implemented by Aug. 1, 2009, the regulations' effective date.

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