

Undestroyed discarded information puts your organization at risk

A Michigan hospital operator is fined \$1 million for disposing of patient information without the proper security measures in place. (Reported by the Detroit Free Press on October 1, 2007)

The Attorney General of Kentucky conducted an investigation showing that 33 out of 121 dumpsters of local businesses contained more than 500 records containing personal information. (Reported by Lexington, Kentucky-based, WTVQ on Oct. 30, 2007)

The US Federal Trade Commission fined a medium-sized mortgage brokerage company \$50,000 for discarding client financial information without properly destroying it first. (Reported by www.ftc.gov on December 18, 2007)

The Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles fired a Deputy Registrar heading one of its regional office when it was discovered that drivers' personal information was discarded in the dumpster without being shredded first. (Reported by Cleveland, OH-based WKYC on September 13, 2007)

Indiana's Attorney General filed complaints on August 31, 2007 with the Indiana Pharmacy Board against 14 Indianapolis-area pharmacies and 14 individual pharmacists for failing to protect sensitive patient medical information that was put in dumpsters prior to being destroyed. (Reported by Legalnews.com on September 20, 2007)

A Hawaii-based escrow firm is fined \$10,000 for improperly disposing of 39 boxes of records containing thousands of customers' Social Security numbers and other financial information by placing the boxes in a dumpster. (Reported by Pacific Business News on July 19, 2007)



Law Enforcement Officials
and Regulatory Agencies
Take Aim at Irresponsible
Information Disposal Practices



For more information on how to securely and economically meet your organization's information destruction requirements, contact:

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Don't Be A Target!

What are the implications if your sensitive information fell into the wrong hands?

Are there criminal charges, fines and headlines in your trash?

Document Destruction Services



is the solution to your organization's information destruction requirements!

Discarded information on documents and old computers is now considered a significant source of identity theft.

Studies have shown that physical, low tech access to personal records is the primary source of information that identify thieves use to commit their crimes.

(Source: Javelin Strategy and Research: 2007 Identity Fraud Survey Report)



Lawmakers Read The Headlines, Too!

Articles on identify theft and other stories highlighting the need for information protection are in the news every day. But you are not the only one who is reading those headlines! Lawmakers, regulatory agencies and your customers are reading them right along with you, and they expect your organization to fulfill its obligation to protect information.

Fines, Lawsuits And Criminal Charges For Discarding Undestroyed Information Have Reached An All Time High!

Responding to the public outcry for a solution to the problem, regulatory agencies and law enforcement authorities have issued more fines, lawsuits and criminal charges for discarding undestroyed information in the last year than were issued over the last 20 years - combined!

The Obligation To Destroy Discarded Information is Clear.

Under the umbrella of an increasing number of federal and state laws and regulations, virtually every organization in the US has a statutory obligation to protect personal information of its clients at all times. An increasing number of such laws and regulations actually contain requirements to destroy the information prior to disposal. In addition, procedures for such destruction must be documented in writing.

No Organization Is Too Small To Be a Target.

When reviewing the growing list of organizations subjected to fines, lawsuits and criminal charges for discarding undestroyed information, one thing is clear; small organizations are just as much at risk as large ones. Many recently prosecuted organizations include medium-sized and small enterprises.

There is an easy solution!

Outsourcing destruction of paper and electronic equipment to Document Destruction Services is the easiest and most economical way to ensure compliance with information destruction laws. They can even help you draft an information destruction policy to further ensure that your organization does not become the next target.

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