

InfoSafe Shredding
Mobile Document Destruction
"Protecting Your Privacy"
402-891-2688



FAQ on InfoSafe Shredding Services: Frequently Asked Questions on InfoSafe Shredding
Information And Video on One Time Cleanouts: Cleanouts and Purges

What constitutes Protected Health Information (PHI)?

“If a document includes at least one of the 19 data elements described in HIPPA’s section on de-identifying PHI *plus* any piece of health information, it’s PHI”, says Attorney David Szabo, with Nutter, McClennen, and Fish.

Final Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information:

Sub-Section 164.514 Other requirements relating to uses and disclosure of PHI.

The following identifiers of the individual or of relatives, employers, household members of the individual are removed:

- A) Names;
- B) All geographic subdivisions smaller than a state, including street address, city, county, precinct, zip code, and their equivalent geocodes, except for the initial three digits of a zip code if according to the currently publicly available data from the Bureau of the Census:
 - 1) The geographic unit formed by combining all zip codes with the same three initial digits contains more than 20,000 people; and
 - 2) The initial three digits of a zip code for all such geographic units containing 20,000 or fewer people is changed to 000.
- C) All elements of dates (except year) for dates directly related to an individual, including birth date, admission date, discharge date, date of death, and all ages over 89 and all elements of dates (including year) indicative of such age, except that such ages and elements may be aggregated into a single category of age 90 or older;
- D) Telephone numbers;
- E) Fax numbers;
- F) E-mail addresses;
- G) Social Security numbers;
- H) Medical record numbers;
- I) Health plan beneficiary numbers;
- J) Account numbers;
- K) Certificate/license numbers;
- L) Vehicle identifiers and serial numbers; including license plate numbers;
- M) Device identifiers and serial numbers;
- N) Web Universal Resource Locaters (URLs);
- O) Internet Protocol (IP) address numbers;
- P) Biometric Identifiers, including finger and voice prints;
- Q) Full face photographic images and any comparable images; and;
- R) Any other unique identifying number, characteristic, or code.