

**For Immediate Release**  
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### **MCPHD Notifies Affected Clients of Privacy Incident**

**INDIANAPOLIS** – The Marion County Public Health Department (MCPHD) this week notified 792 affected clients that pieces of their personal information were accessed in an unauthorized manner.

A former MCPHD employee was found to have accessed the names, e-mail addresses, dates of birth, and lab results for MCPHD clients who received tests processed by the MCPHD lab. This was more patient information than was necessary to complete their job-related tasks. No financial information is believed to be involved in this incident. While there is no evidence at this time that the information has been misused, the incident still demonstrates a violation of MCPHD’s privacy policies.

MCPHD does not believe this incident poses a significant risk to clients’ financial or medical identity. However, affected clients are being contacted by mail and asked to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity involving their health information.

Since becoming aware of the incident, MCPHD has taken the following steps in response:

- Strengthening technical safeguards to limit access to protected health information to the minimum necessary for job duties.
- Reporting the incident to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), as required by law.
- Retraining the staff involved about HIPAA’s Minimum Necessary Rule and MCPHD’s internal policies.

“MCPHD deeply regrets this incident and any concerns it may cause to our clients, and to the community,” said Curt Brantingham. “Protecting client privacy is among our top priorities, and MCPHD is committed to earning and maintaining the public’s trust.”

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