Horizon Technology Teams with PCIHIPAA to Help Healthcare Providers Navigate HIPAA Compliance

Horizon Technology partners with PCIHIPAA to address stringent HIPAA requirements and help practices keep patient information private and secure

CUMMING, GEORGIA, UNITED STATES, March 16, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Horizon Technology Group ("Horizon") is partnering with PCIHIPAA to help its clients implement HIPAA requirements and privacy and security safeguards. Under HIPAA's Security and Privacy Rules, healthcare providers are required to take proactive steps to protect sensitive patient information. The partnership comes on the heels of an important announcement surrounding HIPAA compliance regulation. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office for Civil Rights continues to announce multi - million dollar fines for healthcare providers that willfully neglect compliance requirements. In addition, the rising number of patient privacy claims, and ransomware attacks on the healthcare industry, has escalated the importance of taking proactive steps to properly protect patient data.

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> *Shane Sullivan, CEO of Horizon Technologies*

"With the Equifax breach and other data breaches announced almost daily, it's time for the industry to start taking serious action. Our clients just don't have the time and resources to adequately navigate complex HIPAA compliance and regulatory issues. We vetted many providers and believe PCIHIPAA's OfficeSafe Compliance Program is the right fit for Horizon and our clients. It balances mitigating risks for our clients with the time and effort needed to run a successful practice. With our partnership, Horizon is being proactive and taking a leadership role by helping providers mitigate risks associated with HIPAA compliance and overall data breach protection," said Shane Sullivan, CEO of Horizon Technology.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, OCR has received over 150,000 HIPAA complaints following the issuance of the Privacy Rule in April 2003. A rising number of claims filed under HIPAA in recent years have led many patients to question whether or not their personal payment and health information is safe. As the government has become more aggressive in HIPAA enforcement, large settlements have become widespread and rising penalties for HIPAA non-compliance are a reality.

According to HHS.gov, the types of HIPAA violations most often identified are:
1) Impermissible uses and disclosures of protected health information (PHI)

2) Lack of technology safeguards of PHI
3) Lack of adequate contingency planning in case of a data breach or ransomware attack
4) Lack of administrative safeguards of PHI
5) Lack of a mandatory HIPAA risk assessment
6) Lack of executed Business Associate Agreements
7) Lack of employee training and updated policies and procedures

"We are excited to be working with Shane Sullivan and everyone at Horizon Technology. They care about their clients and want to mitigate the financial risks often associated with regulatory fines or a data breach.   Identity theft continues to be an issue for all healthcare providers. Our partnership with Horizon will accelerate the implementation of key safeguards for their clients," said Jeff Broudy CEO of PCIHIPAA. "Our mission is to take the guesswork out of HIPAA, and to help healthcare providers and business associates implement compliance requirements easily and affordably. All Horizon clients can now learn about what HIPAA safeguards they may be missing by taking a [Self-Assessment](#)" adds Broudy.

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About Horizon Technology
With over 20 years' experience in the IT industry Horizon Technology has seen a lot of changes. They have the knowledge and expertise to determine what is simply a trend and what is a technology of the future. Horizon leverages that knowledge to guide its clients to invest in systems and solutions that offer the lowest total cost of ownership and create long lasting value.

About PCIHIPAA
PCIHIPAA is an industry leader in PCI and HIPAA compliance by providing turnkey, convenient solutions for its clients. Its OfficeSafe Compliance Program takes the guesswork out of compliance while providing the assurance and insurance healthcare providers need to protect their future. PCIHIPAA was recently voted one of the Top 10 Healthcare Compliance Company's of 2017. Learn more at OfficeSafe.com and PCIHIPAA.com.

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