



PRESS RELEASE

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LCC Notified of Security Breach by Former Dental and Vision Service Provider

Risk of exposure thought to be minimal

LANSING – On June 20, 2011, AssureCare Risk Management, the service provider of the Lansing Community College Dental and Vision Plan through 6/30/2010 notified the college of a possible data security breach occurring on AssureCare's computer server that may affect former participants (and their dependents) of the LCC Dental and Vision Plan.

LCC notified current and former employees of the possible breach, and advised them to monitor all financial and health records and to be alert for anomalies and indications of misuse. LCC also advised employees to obtain a credit report.

The college filed a report with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, as required by law, and asked AssureCare to provide security monitoring services to LCC employees free of charge.

AssureCare has hired Kroll Ontrack, Inc. for investigative services regarding the breach. Kroll is a nationally known computer forensic security investigator. AssureCare and its computer forensic investigator advised LCC regarding AssureCare's May 11, 2011 discovery of this breach that many attempts to access the computer server were made, and two were successful, on May 9 and May 10, 2011. This computer server contained protected health information on LCC Dental Care Plan participants that AssureCare acquired while they were serving as the Dental Plan third party administrator. This included such information as names, addresses, social security numbers, identity of service provider and benefit payment information. AssureCare advises that the server did not contain diagnosis or credit card information.

Based on the follow-up investigation by AssureCare and its investigator, the amount of information accessed was minimal, and the period of time during which the information was accessed was very brief.

“Although we do not have any evidence showing actual misuse of health care information, we are treating this as a security breach under the HITECH Act, and have responded accordingly,” said Ellen Jones, LCC’s Director of Public Affairs. “We are continuing our contact with AssureCare so that we can be made aware of any further developments and information generated from the computer forensic investigation.”

LCC is using this event as an opportunity to review its security policies and procedures, its compliance with current regulations and with currently available protective measures as well as business associate agreements to confirm that they meet all regulatory requirements. LCC is also making certain that it properly responds to all concerns raised by this event, and is surveying current business associates to determine their vulnerability to similar attacks.

If current or former employees have any questions or would like additional informational, they should contact LCC’s Director of Risk Management, J.R. Beauboeuf at 517 483 1730 or beauboeufj@lcc.edu.

About Lansing Community College

Lansing Community College is Michigan’s third largest community college with more than 20,000 students attending each year. LCC offers courses in general education for those interested in transferring to a four-year institution, career and workforce development, developmental education and personal enrichment. To meet the professional development and training needs of regional employees, the college offers customized programs for credit, non-credit and continuing education. The University Center at LCC offers students the opportunity to earn bachelor’s and master’s degrees from six partner universities on the downtown LCC campus. For more information, visit lcc.edu.