

Data Breach Notification Statement

Summary: Coastal Medical Billing complies with Georgia's data breach notification law (O.C.G.A. § 10-1-912) and HIPAA breach notification requirements, and is committed to notifying affected parties promptly in the event of a data breach.

Data Breach Notification Statement — Coastal Medical Billing

Effective Date: May 5, 2026

Last Revised: May 5, 2026

Our Commitment

Coastal Medical Billing takes data security seriously and is committed to prompt and transparent notification in the event that a breach of security compromises personal information or protected health information (PHI).

Georgia Data Breach Notification Law

Under Georgia's Personal Identity Protection Act (O.C.G.A. § 10-1-910 through § 10-1-912), any person or business that maintains computerized data containing personal information of Georgia residents must provide notification following a breach of security.

Key provisions of Georgia law that guide our practices:

- **Who must be notified:** Any Georgia resident whose unencrypted personal information was, or is reasonably believed to have been, acquired by an unauthorized person.
- **Definition of personal information:** Under O.C.G.A. § 10-1-911, "personal information" means an individual's first name or first initial and last name in combination with one or more of the following (when not encrypted or redacted): Social Security number; driver's license or state ID number; financial account, credit card, or debit card number combined with any required security code, access code, or password; or account passwords, PINs, or other access codes.
- **Timing of notification:** Notice must be made "in the most expedient time possible and without unreasonable delay," consistent with the legitimate needs of law enforcement and measures necessary to determine the scope of the breach and restore the integrity of the data system. Georgia does not impose a specific day count for notification.
- **Third-party obligation:** Any person or business that maintains data on behalf of another entity must notify the data owner within **24 hours** of discovering a breach.
- **Large-scale breaches:** If a breach affects more than 10,000 Georgia residents at one time, the breached entity must also notify all nationwide consumer reporting agencies without unreasonable delay.
- **Law enforcement delay:** Notification may be delayed if a law enforcement agency determines that it would compromise a criminal investigation. Notification must proceed once law enforcement clears it.

HIPAA Breach Notification

As a business associate under HIPAA, Coastal Medical Billing is also subject to the HIPAA Breach Notification Rule (45 C.F.R. §§ 164.400–164.414). In the event of a breach of unsecured PHI, we will:

- Notify the affected covered entity without unreasonable delay, and no later than 60 days after discovery of the breach, as required by 45 C.F.R. § 164.410

- Cooperate fully with the covered entity in its notification to affected individuals and, where applicable, to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the media
- Provide the covered entity with the identity of each individual whose PHI has been, or is reasonably believed to have been, affected
- Provide any other available information that the covered entity is required to include in its notification to individuals

How to Report a Suspected Breach

If you believe a data breach or security incident has occurred involving information maintained by Coastal Medical Billing, please report it immediately:

Emilee Usry

Coastal Medical Billing

Phone: (912) 355-8188 | Toll-Free: 1-866-581-8246

Fax: (912) 356-6970

Email: eusry@coastmedbill.com (use subject line: "URGENT: Security Incident")

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 16118, Savannah, GA 31416

Reports should include as much detail as possible, including:

- The nature of the suspected breach
- The types of information potentially involved
- The date and time the incident was discovered
- Any actions already taken in response

All reports will be investigated promptly. Coastal Medical Billing will take appropriate corrective and preventive action and will provide all notifications required by Georgia and federal law.

Disclaimer

This statement is provided for informational purposes and reflects Coastal Medical Billing's understanding of its obligations under applicable law as of the effective date. It does not constitute legal advice. Georgia's data breach notification statute (O.C.G.A. § 10-1-912) and federal HIPAA breach notification requirements are subject to legislative and regulatory change. Covered entities and other parties should consult their own legal counsel regarding their specific obligations.

Revision History

Date	Version	Description
May 5, 2026	1.0	Initial publication