

TO: All Providers

**FROM: CareFirst of Maryland, Inc.
Medicare Fraud Unit**

DATE: October 18, 2001

SUBJECT: Individuals Posing as Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) Auditors and/or Other Government Officials

URGENT

There have been individuals, under the guise of performing HIPAA compliance audits, approaching medical groups and requesting access to the provider's computers and databases. These individuals refuse to produce identification or documentation confirming their identity.

Providers should never allow ANY individuals, who fail to produce identification and proper documentation from the auditing entity, access to their computers, medical records, billing information, etc.

There are currently no on-site HIPAA audits being conducted.

If you have received any recent attempts by individuals to gain access to your facility and information, or should you encounter this situation in the future, please contact Donna Blaschak at 410-561-4111 or Krystyna Gallegos at 410-308-3992.

(Source: NMFA 2001-07)

THIS BULLETIN SHOULD BE SHARED WITH ALL HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONERS AND MANAGERIAL MEMBERS OF THE PROVIDER/SUPPLIER STAFF. ALL BULLETINS ISSUED AFTER OCTOBER 1, 1999 ARE AVAILABLE AT NO COST FROM OUR WEB SITE AT www.marylandmedicare.com.