

County Of San Diego
Health and Human Services Agency (HHSa)

SUBJECT: **Authorization to Use and Disclose
Protected Health Information**

NO: **HHSa-L-09**
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DATE: March 26, 2026

REFERENCE: Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act; California Information Practices Act; California Civil Code 56.110, 42 CFR Part 2 and various State agreements.

POLICY: The County shall obtain authorization from the individual for the use and disclosure of protected information, including protected health information (PHI) as required by law. HHSa covered entity programs shall refer to California Civil Code 56.110 for any disclosures, transmissions, transfers, granting access, or sharing of reproductive medical information, including abortion and abortion related services, that is lawful under the laws of this state from an electronic health record or health information exchange system to any individual or entity from another state. Business Assurance and Compliance shall establish procedures regarding such authorization.

PROCEDURES: See related procedures and forms at www.cosdcompliance.org.

RESPONSIBILITIES: Privacy laws and regulations, such as the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), 42 CFR Part 2, the California Information Practices Act (IPA), and others, outline confidentiality requirements and clients' rights to their protected information. Many HHSa programs also have agreements with the State of California that outline additional confidentiality parameters. Compliance with these regulations is addressed in a series of agency policies and procedures maintained by Business Assurance and Compliance.

DEFINITIONS: See HHSa Policy L-30 Privacy Definitions.

QUESTIONS/INFORMATION: Please contact HHSa Business Assurance and Compliance by email at Compliance.HHSa@SDCounty.ca.gov or by phone at (619) 237-8571.

Approved: *Christy Carlson*
Christy Carlson
Director
Business Assurance & Compliance