

IMPORTANT:

THIS NOTICE DESCRIBES HOW YOUR MEDICAL INFORMATION MAY BE USED AND DISCLOSED AND HOW YOU CAN GET ACCESS TO THIS INFORMATION. PLEASE REVIEW IT CAREFULLY.

Fern Creek Fire & EMS is required by law to maintain the privacy of your protected health information (PHI) We are also required by law to provide you with the attached detailed Notice of Privacy Practices Notice explaining our legal duties and privacy practices with respect to your PHI.

Uses and Disclosures of PHI:

Fern Creek Fire & EMS may use your PHI for the purposes of treatment, payment and health care operations, in most cases without your written permission. Examples of our use of your PHI:

For Treatment

This includes such things as verbal and written information that we obtain about you and use pertaining to your medical condition and treatment provided to you by us and other medical personnel (including doctors and nurses who give orders to allow us to provide treatment to you). It also includes information we give to other health care personnel to whom we transfer your care and treatment, and includes transfer of PHI via radio or telephone to the hospital or dispatch center as well as providing the hospital with a copy of the written record we create in the course of providing you with treatment and transport.

For Payment

We may use and disclose your PHI for any activities we must undertake to get reimbursed for the services that we provide to you. This includes such things as organizing your PHI, submitting bills to insurance companies (either directly or through a third party billing company), managing billed claims for services rendered, performing medical necessity determinations and reviews, performing utilization reviews, and collecting outstanding accounts. We may also disclose PHI to another healthcare provider or entity for the payment activities of

the provider or entity that receives the PHI (such as your hospital).

For Healthcare Operations

This includes quality assurance activities, licensing, and training programs to ensure that our personnel meet our standards of care and follow established policies and procedures, obtaining legal and financial services, conducting business planning, processing grievances and complaints, creating reports that do not individually identify you for data collection purposes, fundraising, and certain marketing activities.

Other uses of your PHI we can make without authorization

- For healthcare fraud and abuse detection or for activities related to compliance with the law;
- To a family member, other relative, close personal friend or other individual involved in your care;
- To a public health authority in certain situations (such as reporting a birth, death or disease, as required by law), as part of a public health investigation, to report adverse events such as product defects or to notify a person about exposure to a possible communicable disease, as required by law;
- For health oversight activities including audits or other actions undertaken by the government (or their contractors) by law to oversee the healthcare system;
- For judicial and administrative proceedings, as required by a court or administrative order, or in some cases in response to a subpoena or other legal process;
- For law enforcement activities in limited situations, such as when there is a warrant for the request, or when the information is needed to locate a suspect or stop a crime;
- To avert a serious threat to the health and safety of a person or the public.

- For workers' compensation purposes, and in compliances with workers' compensation laws;
- To coroners, medical examiners, and funeral directors for identifying a deceased person, determining cause of death, or carrying on their duties as authorized by law;
- If you are an organ donor, we may release health information to organizations that handle organ procurement or organ and as necessary to facilitate organ donation and transplantation.

Uses and Disclosures of your PHI that require your written authorization

Any other use or disclosure of PHI, other than those listed above, will only be made with your written authorization, you may revoke this authorization at any time by contacting us. Specifically, we must obtain your written authorization before using or disclosing your: (a) psychotherapy notes, other than for carrying out our own treatment, payment, or health care operation purposes, (b) PHI for marketing communication, or when engaging in a sale of your PHI

Your rights regarding your PHI

As a patient, you have a number of rights with respect to your PHI including;

Right to access, copy, or inspect your PHI. You have the right to inspect and obtain a paper or electronic copy of most of the PHI that we collect and maintain about you. You also have the right to request that we transmit your PHI to a third party. Requests for access to your PHI or to transmit your PHI to a third party should be made in writing to our HIPAA Compliance Officer, and by filling out an access request form.

Right to request an amendment of your PHI

You have the right to ask us to amend PHI that we maintain about you. Requests for amendments to your PHI should be made in writing and you should contact our HIPAA

Compliance Officer if you wish to make a request for amendment.

Right to request an accounting of certain disclosures of your PHI

You may request an accounting of certain disclosures of your PHI. Fern Creek Fire & EMS will provide an accounting of those disclosures that we are required to account for under HIPAA. If you wish to request an accounting of disclosures of your PHI that are subject to the accounting requirement, you should contact our HIPAA Compliance Officer and make a request in writing.

Right to request restrictions on uses and disclosures of your PHI

You have the right to request that we restrict how we use and disclose your PHI for treatment, payment or health care operation purposes or to restrict the information that is provided to family, friends and other individuals involved in your healthcare. However, we are only required to abide by a requested restriction under limited circumstances, and it is generally our policy that we will not agree to any restrictions unless required by law to do so. If you wish to request a restriction on the use or disclosure of your PHI, you should contact our HIPAA Compliance Officer and make a request in writing.

Right to notice of a breach of unsecured PHI

If we discover that there has been a breach of your unsecured PHI, we will notify you about that breach by first-class mail sent to the most recent address that we have on file. If you prefer to be notified about breaches by electronic mail, please contact our HIPAA Compliance Officer, to make Fern Creek Fire & EMS aware of this preference and to provide a valid email address to send the electronic notice.

Right to request confidential communications

You have the right to request that we send your PHI to an alternate location (e.g., somewhere other than your home address) or in a specific manner (e.g., by email rather than regular mail). If you wish to request that we communicate PHI to a specific location or in a specific format, you should contact our HIPAA Compliance Officer and make the request in writing.

Revisions to this notice

Fern Creek Fire & EMS is required to abide by the terms of the version of this notice currently in effect.

However, Fern Creek Fire & EMS reserves the right to change the terms of this notice at any time, and the changes will be effective immediately and will apply to all PHI that we maintain. Any material changes to the notice will be promptly posted in our facilities. You can get a copy of the latest version of this notice by contacting our HIPAA Compliance Officer.

Your legal rights and complaints

You also have the right to complain to us, or to the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, if you believe that your privacy rights have been violated. **You will not be retaliated against in any way for filing a complaint with us or to the government. If you have any questions or if you wish to file a complaint or exercise any rights listed in this notice, please contact:**