

Media Contact: XXXX

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thief Steals Laptop from Car in XXXX, Patients May Have Had Data Exposed.

XX XX, XXXX – A XXXX-area medical practice is sending personal letters to 563 patients to inform them that a laptop stolen from a parked car in XXXX had some of their data on it. The data did not include patient medical records.

The notifications follow an XXXX XX, XXXX incident, when a thief broke into a parked car in Boston and stole the laptop of an employee working for the Massachusetts eHealth Collaborative (“Collaborative”). The Collaborative was helping to upgrade the computer systems of the XXXX medical practice in XXXX (the “Practice”).

The Collaborative’s stolen laptop contained some limited data regarding patients from the Practice. The data included names, social security numbers and/or dates of birth, but this data was not consistently correlated with other patient information on the laptop, which included address, phone number, insurance information and/or appointment date. Importantly, the data did **not** include any patient medical records. In conjunction with local law enforcement and security experts, the Collaborative will be working with the Practice to notify impacted residents to help them mitigate the potential risks, if any, from the stolen laptop. Affected patients will receive a notification letter from the Practice in which the Collaborative will offer its resources and inform the individuals of steps they should take to protect themselves from potential harm resulting from the incident.

Practice patients may e-mail the Collaborative at infosecurity@maehc.org with questions or to determine whether their information has been identified as being involved.