



Office of the Chief
Records Officer for the
U.S. Government

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July 28, 2021

Ms. Karen Ballesteros
Office of the Secretary Records Officer
U.S. Dept. of Health & Human Services
200 Independence Ave. S.W.,
Suite 336E #23,
Washington, D.C. 20201
Karen.Ballesteros@hhs.gov

Dear Ms. Ballesteros,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) became aware of an allegation of unauthorized disposition related to Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals (OMHA) records via a public comment made under *Federal Register* notice NARA-2021-031 (FDMS docket NARA-21-0007). The commenter alleged that HHS is not able to account for over 8,000 files containing PII, PAI, and HPI, and that electronic and paper case files commencing in late 2007 were destroyed.

We received your report dated July 19, 2021, providing further details on the OMHA's investigation into this allegation. Your report confirms that the OMHA has examined the records in question and could not substantiate the claims made by the commenter in the allegation.

Based on this information, the OMHA has met the requirements outlined in 36 CFR Part 1230.14(a) and NARA considers the allegation in this case unfounded. Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurence V. Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and a distinct 'V'.

LAURENCE BREWER
Chief Records Officer for
the U.S. Government