



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

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January 20, 2023

Kim Tart
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave, NW
Enterprise Records Service (005R1B)
Washington, DC 20420
kim.tart@va.gov

Dear Kim Tart,

The National Archives and Records Administration has received your report on the loss of Covid-19 records at the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital & Clinics (JAHVH), Tampa, Florida. The records contained BinaxNOW testing kit lot numbers and information on nursing team personnel that performed the tests from January 10, 2021 through January 12, 2022. According to the report, the records were lost due to an oversight in recordkeeping procedures. The nursing team personnel erroneously assumed that the records were scanned and uploaded to VA's agency-wide system for laboratory records and destroyed the original paper-based files. We understand that no efforts could be made to recover the records as they were completely destroyed. We further understand that to prevent future loss of records the Records Officer will provide annual training, review the service record file plans annually, and will verify that the test kit lot information and nursing personnel information is appropriately managed.

Based on the information that you provided, the reporting requirements of 36 CFR 1230.14(a) have been met. NARA is satisfied with the safeguards established and considers this matter closed. I appreciate your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions or wish to discuss further, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

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