



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 destruction of patient dental records at the George E. Wahlen VAMC, Salt Lake City, Utah. The records contained patient information to include names, social security numbers, and treatment dates. The approximate date range of the records was from 1983 to 2007. According to the report, an employee placed the records in a shred bin and they were inadvertently destroyed by the shred contractor. 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 employee who placed the records in the shred bin has been re-assigned and no longer has direct access to patient medical records.

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