

Health Information Compliance Alert

HIPAA Compliance: LAW FIRM TACKLES HIPAA

The law firm of **Shaw Pittman** introduced June 3 an online, searchable database to aid health plans remain in compliance with the privacy regulations of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

According to the release, the Shaw Pittman Preemption Analysis examines state laws, regulations, opinions of attorneys general and relevant case law for each individual state to determine those instances where state law preempts the national HIPAA privacy standard. Cross-state comparisons are also researchable on the searchable extranet.

The **Health Insurance Association of America** and the **American Association of Health Plans** joined with the **Blue Cross Blue Shield Association** in selecting the firm to develop the database. **Alan Lipsitz**, executive director of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association Legal Department Cooperative, said the health groups hired Shaw Pittman to "help solve one of their most pressing problems HIPAA compliance as it relates to state regulations."

The analysis is available on a subscription basis through the three sponsoring organizations or through Shaw Pittman, directly. Demos are available at: www.shawpittman.com/extranet/hc/demohipaa.nsf.