

Health Information Compliance Alert

Reader Question: No Breaches -- Do You Still Need To Submit An Annual Report?

Question: Do we still submit a report for the HHS annual breach reporting even if we don't have any breaches during the year?

Answer: "No, if you haven't had any breaches to report, there is no particular report that you need to make," answers **Jim Sheldon-Dean**, founder and director of compliance services at **Lewis Creek Systems, LLC** in Charlotte, VT. You would submit a report only if you do have a breach.

"But do keep in mind that all of the breaches that you have, even the small ones, do need to be reported," Sheldon-Dean warns. You must report the bigger breaches within 60 days and the smaller ones by March 1 every year.