

**VA**

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs  
Veterans Health Administration  
Lebanon VA Medical Center

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**FOR  
IMMEDIATE  
RELEASE**

## **Lebanon VAMC reports accidental release of information**

**For Immediate Release – Jan. 11, 2018**

LEBANON, Pa. – The U.S Department of Veterans Affairs’ Lebanon VA Medical Center has announced that an unauthorized release of medical information occurred at the facility in late November 2018 and assorted information of 993 Veterans was inadvertently released via e-mail to the family member of a Veteran.

A historical listing of Veterans who were residents of nursing homes was inadvertently e-mailed to the family member of a Veteran who was exploring nursing home placement options and had requested a listing of nursing home facilities that work with VA. The erroneously e-mailed list included Veterans’ names, abbreviated social security numbers, diagnoses, the nursing home where the Veteran was admitted and service-connection disability rating percentages, if applicable.

“Lebanon VA Medical Center and our employees take our responsibility to protect patient information very seriously. Along with assistance from national offices, we immediately investigated this inadvertent, unauthorized release of information which occurred in late November,” said Tonya Hromco, Lebanon VAMC privacy officer. “We regret any release of unauthorized information and notifications to those impacted were made as required.”

Veterans or family members, of those deceased that have been affected, are being notified by letter. Impacted Veterans with any concerns or questions can contact the facility’s privacy officer at 1-800-409-8771, ext. 4614 or ext. 5413, for assistance.

“Our principle concern is for the safety and well-being of our Veterans and protecting their information,” said Robert W. Callahan Jr., medical center director. “A review of the incident was initiated and appropriate measures both in the section where this occurred and throughout the facility have been implemented to prevent future occurrences.”

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