



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

Sent Via Email. No Hard Copy to Follow.

May 10, 2024

Kim Tart
Department of Veterans Affairs
801 Vermont Avenue, NW
Enterprise Records Service (005R1B)
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Kim Tart,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has been notified of a potential unauthorized disposition of records. The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Portland Health Care System (P1DIR/648) reported that 1,119 radiology, general records, and clinical images were lost during data migration.

In accordance with 36 CFR 1230.14(a), NARA requests that VA respond within 30 calendar days to this allegation. If it is determined that an unauthorized disposition of records has occurred, the response should include the following information:

- A complete description of the records with volume and dates if known;
- The office maintaining the records;
- A statement of the exact circumstances surrounding the removal, defacing, alteration, or destruction of records;
- A statement of the safeguards established to prevent further loss of documentation; and
- Details of the actions taken to salvage, retrieve, or reconstruct the records.

If it is determined that there has been no unauthorized disposition, please provide us with sufficient documentation to support that finding. I appreciate your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or wish to discuss further, please contact me at laurence.brewer@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Laurence Brewer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L' and a prominent 'B'.

LAURENCE BREWER

Chief Records Officer

for the U.S. Government



Office of the Chief
Operating Officer

December 20, 2024

Kim Tart
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Ave, NW
Enterprise Records Service (005R1B)
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Ms. Tart,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) acknowledges receipt of the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) report regarding the loss of 1,119 radiology, general records, and clinical images at the VA Portland Health Care System, Portland, OR.

According to the report, the files were lost during a scheduled migration from a legacy system to a new storage application. The files were reported as migrated but only the shortcut to the files were migrated. We understand that efforts were made to recover or reconstruct the records but were unsuccessful. We further understand that to prevent future loss of records, verification steps to validated images will be revised to include checking file sizes greater than 0 bytes.

Based on this information, the reporting requirements of 36 CFR 1230.14(a) have been met and NARA considers this matter closed. I appreciate your attention to this matter. If you have any questions or wish to discuss this further, please contact the Records Management Oversight and Reporting Program by email at UnauthorizedDisposition@nara.gov.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM FISCHER
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government (Acting)