

*****NEWS RELEASE*****

For Immediate Release
February 16, 2016

CONTACT:

Deborah Hamilton, Hamilton Strategies, 215.815.7716, 610.584.1096, ext. 102, or Beth Harrison, 610.584.1096, ext. 104, Media@HamiltonStrategies.com

Don't Sign the HIPAA 'Privacy' Notice at the Doctor's Office This Year

Citizens' Council for Health Freedom Educating Patients on 'The HIPAA Grand Deception'—It's Not About Protecting Privacy at All

ST. PAUL, Minn.—It might be the health care surprise of the century for some patients—and even some health care workers. The HIPAA “Privacy” Rule doesn't ensure patients' privacy at all.

In fact, says Twila Brase, president and co-founder of *Citizens' Council for Health Freedom (CCHF, www.cchffreeedom.org)*, signing the HIPAA privacy notice does more harm than good.

“Many—patients and health care workers alike—have the misconception that signing the HIPAA ‘notice of privacy’ form protects their privacy and ensures that their private medical information will not be shared,” Brase said. “The truth is that our data will be shared whether we sign the form or not. Signing or not signing does not change what medical professionals and others can do with our data! In fact, HIPAA allows 2.2 million entities, including 1.5 million business associates plus government agencies, access to patient data without their consent if someone else decides they have the right or need to know.

“Furthermore, if patients decline to sign the HIPAA ‘privacy’ form, some clinics, doctors or hospitals may incorrectly refuse to provide treatment, thereby putting them in violation of patients' HIPAA rights,” Brase continued. “The HHS website tells doctor and hospitals what to do when patients refuse. Refusing treatment is not one of the instructions.

“Doctors and clinic and hospital staff are often clueless about the HIPAA deception, so we need patients to help them see the truth about HIPAA,” she added. “Therefore, CCHF continues to urge people not to sign the form to help wake up the medical community and Americans everywhere about the fact that our privacy rights have been taken away from us by HIPAA. By not signing the form, patients exercise their rights to no longer participate in the deception.”

CCHF, a patient-centered national health freedom organization based in St. Paul, Minn., existing to protect health care choices, individualized patient care, and medical and genetic privacy rights, has long educated Americans about “The HIPAA Grand Deception.”

“The HIPAA privacy notice is pure deception, making us think we have privacy and that our data is secure,” Brase said. “The HIPAA form is in place so the government can continue to share our information, with or without our acceptance of the form. HIPAA also opens the door to many other vehicles by which our privacy is compromised. For example, without HIPAA, we wouldn’t have Electronic Health Records (EHRs). After our private medical information is entered into an EHR, all sorts of people can have access to our data.”

On its website, **CCHF** gives patients a tool they can use when they make the decision not to sign a HIPAA privacy notice in a doctor’s office, clinic or hospital. [Click here](#) to download and print a doubled-sided, wallet-sized card to present to medical personnel in case there is confusion or misinformation about why the form is not being signed. Also, visit **CCHF**’s web page dedicated to [HIPAA here](#).

Brase frequently discusses “The HIPAA Grand Deception” during **CCHF**’s daily, 60-second [Health Freedom Minute](#) radio feature. Heard on more than 380 stations nationwide, including 200 on the American Family Radio Network and 100 on the Bott Radio Network, Health Freedom Minute helps listeners learn more about the agenda behind health care initiatives, as well as steps they can take to protect their health care choices, rights and privacy. The one-minute program is free for stations to run; for details, contact Michael Hamilton at mhamilton@hamiltonstrategies.com or (610) 584-1096 or (215) 519-4838.

For more information about **CCHF**, visit its web site at www.cchfreedom.org, its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/cchfreedom or its Twitter feed, @CCHFfreedom.

Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom, a patient-centered national health freedom organization based in St. Paul, Minn., exists to protect health care choices, individualized patient care, and medical and genetic privacy rights. CCHF sponsors the daily, 60-second radio feature, Health Freedom Minute, which airs on approximately 350 stations nationwide, including 200 on the American Family Radio Network and 100 on the Bott Radio Network. Listeners can learn more about the agenda behind health care initiatives and steps they can take to protect their health care choices, rights and privacy.

CCHF president and co-founder Twila Brase, R.N., has been called one of the “100 Most Powerful People in Health Care” and one of “Minnesota’s 100 Most Influential Health Care Leaders.” A public health nurse, Brase has been interviewed by CNN, Fox News, Minnesota Public Radio, NBC Nightly News, NBC’s Today Show, NPR, New York Public Radio, the Associated Press, Modern Healthcare, TIME, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and The Washington Times, among others. She is at the forefront of informing the public of crucial health issues, such as intrusive wellness and prevention initiatives in Obamacare, patient privacy, informed consent, the dangers of “evidence-based medicine” and the implications of state and federal health care reform.

###

For more information or to interview Twila Brase, president and co-founder of Citizens’ Council for Health Freedom, contact Deborah Hamilton at 215-815-7716 or 610-584-1096, or Beth Harrison at 610-584-1096, Media@HamiltonStrategies.com.