# Healthy IT Contracts: HIPAA and Beyond

Corinne S Smith JD, MHA, FACHE
401 Congress Avenue Suite 2000
Austin, TX 78701
cssmith@Winstead.com

1

## Legal Disclaimer

- These materials should not be considered as, or as a substitute for, legal advice, and they are not intended to nor do they create an attorney-client relationship.
- Since the materials included here are general, they may not apply to your individual legal or factual circumstances.
- You should not take (or refrain from taking) any action based on the information you obtain from these materials without first obtaining professional counsel.
- The views expressed in this presentation do not necessarily reflect those of the firm, its lawyers, or clients.

winstead.com

WINSTEAD

### Importance of HIT Agreements

- Proliferation of Software as a Services (SAAS) as a core part of most healthcare providers IT strategies.
- Health information technology (HIT) vendors represent one of the highest risk areas in an organization's cybersecurity structure.
- Understand key components and risks in evaluating and negotiating a SAAS agreement.

winstead.com



3

### Vendor Due Diligence

- 63% of data breaches attributable to third party vendor
- Reputation
- Experience
- References
- History of Data Breaches/OCR Fines



WINSTEAD

winstead.com



- Data Security & Protection
- Limitation of Liability
- Indemnification and Hold Harmless Clauses
- Warranties and Disclaimers
- Intellectual property ownership, licenses and disputes
- Cyber Liability Insurance

- Offshore Subcontractors
- Service Levels/Performance Standards
- Service Suspension or Blockage
- Access to Data
- Data Backup and Disaster Recovery

winstead.com



## Security/Privacy

- Compliance with international security standards
- Ask questions:
  - Where is data stored and processed?
  - How is transferred data protected?
  - Remote access?
  - Background checks and personnel screening?





winstead.com

5





Find the full text of this and thousands of other resources from leading experts in dozens of legal practice areas in the <u>UT Law CLE eLibrary (utcle.org/elibrary)</u>

Title search: Health Care IT Vendor Contracts: HIPAA and Beyond

First appeared as part of the conference materials for the 2021 Health Care IT Vendor Contracts: HIPAA and Beyond session "Health Care IT Vendor Contracts: HIPAA and Beyond"