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United States Courts
Southern District of Texas
FILED

May 29, 2024

Nathan Ochsner, Clerk of Court

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION**

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

EITHAN DAVID HAIM

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§
§

Criminal No. 4:24-cr-00298

UNDER SEAL

INDICTMENT

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

At all times relevant to this Indictment, unless otherwise stated:

INTRODUCTION

1. Defendant Eithan David Haim (“**HAIM**”) was a resident student at Baylor College of Medicine (“**BAYLOR**”) specializing in general surgery. **HAIM** was a resident of **BAYLOR** from 2018 through 2023.

2. Baylor College of Medicine is a medical school and research center located in Houston, Texas.

3. Texas Children’s Hospital (“**TCH**”) is one of the largest pediatric hospitals in the United States. **TCH** operated in the Southern District of Texas as a health provider, as defined by Title 42, United States Code, Section 1320(d)(3) and Title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 160.103.

4. As part of **HAIM**’s residency with **BAYLOR**, **HAIM** had five rotations from 2019 to 2021 with pediatric patients in the general surgery division at **TCH**.

5. **TCH** treated pediatric patients residing in Houston, Texas and elsewhere. Patients receiving treatment at **TCH** provided their personal identification and health information, including name, date of birth, social security number, medical history, prescriptions received, and

medications taken. TCH used computers and computer systems to store and exchange this patient medical information electronically.

6. TCH was a covered entity, as described in the HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) privacy regulation, Title 42, United States Code, Section 1320-9(b)(3). The patient records maintained at TCH computers and computer systems contained “individually identifiable health information”, as defined by Title 42 United States Code, Section 1320(6) and Title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 160.103.

7. In or around 2018, **HAIM** received his login credentials from TCH in order to access medical patient files. **HAIM** was only authorized to review patient records of patients under his care. **HAIM** was not authorized to look at medical records for patients that were not under his care at TCH or any other relevant entities.

8. In or around June 2018, **HAIM** participated in extensive HIPAA training provided to all BAYLOR residents upon entry into BAYLOR’s residency program. **HAIM** was provided important information about HIPAA as well as information for reporting any medical concerns or issues. **HAIM** attended numerous trainings where BAYLOR provided information related to anonymous reporting of any instances of misconduct, ethic violations, or child abuse etc...to its medical students. The training was relevant to not only BAYLOR but to the related entities such as TCH.

9. **HAIM’s** last rotation with TCH was from December 2020 to January 2021. After his rotation was completed, **HAIM** did not return to TCH for any additional pediatric rotations or medical care.

10. Starting from September 2022 through April 2023, **HAIM** attempted to re-activate his TCH login credentials on numerous occasions. **HAIM’s** credentials had expired due to long periods of inactivity.

11. In or around April 2023, **HAIM** requested to re-activate his login access at TCH in order to have access to pediatric patients not under his care. However, **HAIM** emailed TCH numerous times claiming urgency for adult care services anticipated to be under his care.

12. **HAIM's** login activity showed that **HAIM** did not treat or access any adult care patients during this time period at TCH.

13. On or about April 24, 2023, **HAIM's** login activity showed that **HAIM** accessed pediatric patient files at TCH that were not under his care.

14. On or about April 26, 2023, **HAIM** requested remote access so he could discreetly covertly access pediatric patient files for patients that were not under his care from BAYLOR and remotely rather than at TCH where his search would be more visible to other physicians.

15. **HAIM** obtained personal information including patient names, treatment codes, dates of service and attending physician from TCH's electronic system without authorization and under the false pretenses that he needed to urgently attend to adult care services. In fact, no TCH pediatric or adult patients were assigned to Haim's care.

16. After **HAIM** obtained unauthorized individually identifiable health HIPAA protected information on pediatric patients, **HAIM** did not attempt to report or report any of his concerns to supervisors at BAYLOR or TCH. **HAIM** did not report any of his concerns to the anonymous hotline provided by BAYLOR or to CPS as had been directed by BAYLOR when he entered the program.

17. Instead, **HAIM** caused malicious harm to TCH, pediatric patients at TCH and its physicians by contacting a media contact, PERSON1.

18. In or around May 14 through May 16, 2023, **HAIM** and Person1 talked on the phone numerous times. On or about May 16, 2023, Person1 published HIPAA protected information obtained by **HAIM** via X (formerly known as Twitter) and other online media outlets.

The HIPAA protected information had partially redacted out name of the pediatric patients but kept the dates of service, diagnosis, procedure codes and physician names visible.

19. As a result of **HAIM'S** actions, TCH resulted in financial loss, medical delays in previously scheduled patients as well as threats and harm to its patients and esteemed physicians. In furtherance of his malicious intent, **HAIM** obtained unauthorized HIPAA protected information and intentionally contacted a media outlet to grossly mischaracterize TCH's medical procedures in order to damage the reputation of TCH and its physicians and to promote his own personal agenda.

COUNT 1

The Grand Jury further charges:

Paragraphs 1 through of this Indictment are hereby re-alleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

From on or about September 2022 to on or about February 2024, in the Southern District of Texas, the defendant, **EITHAN DAVID HAIM**, knowingly and without authorization, and for a reason other than those permitted by Title 42, United States Code, Chapter 7, Subchapter XL, Part C (provisions of HIPAA), obtained individually identifiable health information under false pretenses relating to an individual; to wit, electronic medical records which were maintained by TCH and which contained the individually identifiable health information of approximately four TCH patients: L.M.,A.C., A.S., and G.M.

In violation of Title 42, United States Code, Sections 1320d-6(a)(2) and (b)(2).

COUNTS TWO - FOUR

The Grand Jury further charges:

Paragraphs 1 through 19 of this Indictment are hereby re-alleged and incorporated by reference as though fully set forth herein.

From on or about September 2022 to on or about February 2024, in the Southern District of Texas, the defendant, **EITHAN DAVID HAIM**, knowingly and without authorization, and for a reason other than those permitted by Title 42, United States Code, Chapter 7, Subchapter XL, Part C (provisions of HIPAA), did obtain and/or wrongfully disclose individually identifiable health information with the intent to cause malicious harm to TCH’s physicians and patients.

Count	Date	Information Obtained
2	On or about April 24, 2023 through May 14, 2023	Patient M.S.: MRN number, DOB, Date of Service, Notes, Visit type, Physician.
3	On or about April 24, 2023 through May 14, 2023	Patient K.B.; MRN number, DOB, Date of Service, Notes, Visit type, Physician.
4	On or about April 24, 2023 through May 14, 2023	Patient G.H., MRN number, DOB, Date of Service, Notes, Visit type, Physician.

In violation of Title 42, United States Code, Sections 1320d-6(a)(2) and (b)(3).

NOTICE OF CRIMINAL FORFEITURE

(18 U.S.C. § 981(a)(1)(D)(vi) and (E), and 28 U.S.C. § 2461(c))

Pursuant to Title 18, United States Code, Section 981(a)(1)(C), and Title 28, United States Code, Section 2461(c), the United States gives notice to defendant,

EITHAN DAVID HAIM

that upon conviction for HIPAA violations as charged in Counts 1 through 4, all property, real or personal, which constitutes or is derived from proceeds traceable to such violation(s) shall be forfeited to the United States.

Money Judgment and Substitute Assets

The United States will seek the imposition of a money judgment against the defendant. In the event that a condition listed in Title 21, United States Code, Section 853(p) exists, the United States will seek to forfeit any other property of the defendant in substitution.

A TRUE BILL

Original Signature on File

FOREPERSON OF THE GRAND JURY

ALAMDAR S. HAMDANI
UNITED STATES ATTORNEY

Tina Ansari

TINA ANSARI
ASSISTANT UNITED STATES ATTORNEY