

## HEALTHCARE & PUBLIC HEALTH SECTOR

## 12 March 2021

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## Fake COVID-19 Vaccination Record Cards Pose Health Risks

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The Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General (HHS-OIG), and the FBI Criminal Investigative Division, in coordination with the FBI's Office of Private Sector (OPS), prepared this Liaison Information Report (LIR) to inform healthcare providers and public health entities about several reported incidents where US-based individuals encouraged printing and selling fake COVID-19 Vaccination Record Cards.

- In December 2020, a US-based website encouraged visitors to make a "counterfeit vaccination record card for you and your family." The site provided detailed instructions about how to print and fill-in a high-quality copy of a vaccination record card, containing the official seals of HHS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The website encouraged visitors falsify details on the card, including the type and lot code of COVID-19 vaccines.
- In late January 2021, an individual reported to the FBI that a recent social media post advertised fake vaccination record cards for sale on a well-known e-commerce website.

HHS-OIG and the FBI recommend vaccine administrators do not share blank vaccine cards with individuals who have not received a vaccine. We recommend that health care professionals discourage individuals from sharing photos or copies of vaccine cards, particularly on social media. Because fake vaccine cards have been circulated, we strongly encourage state, territorial, tribal, and local public health authorities to follow CDC guidance and continue to maintain social distancing and use personal protective equipment.

To report suspicious activity involving fake vaccination record cards, please contact the appropriate government agency in your state or jurisdiction, as well as the National Center for Disaster Fraud (1-866-720-5721 or www.justice.gov/disastercomplaintform); HHS-OIG (1-800-HHS-TIPS or www.oig.hhs.gov); or the FBI ( www.tips.fbi.gov).

This LIR was disseminated by OPS's Information Sharing and Analysis Unit. Send questions and requests to the FBI Private Sector Coordinator at your FBI Field Office (<u>www.fbi.gov/contactus/field-offices</u>).

