**(c) *Standard: Disclosures about victims of abuse, neglect or domestic violence*** -

**(1) *Permitted disclosures.*** Except for reports of child abuse or neglect permitted by [paragraph (b)(1)(ii)](https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/45/164.512#b_1_ii)of this section, a [covered entity](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=118c2846b72bdf7c20f71ae0e1cc95ee&term_occur=12&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) may disclose [protected health information](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=7383a4ae647bf28b2388260d0de8b4ef&term_occur=8&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) about an [individual](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=8490b40f8ddb1b658047bf74d1757b07&term_occur=18&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) whom the [covered entity](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=118c2846b72bdf7c20f71ae0e1cc95ee&term_occur=13&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) reasonably believes to be a victim of abuse, neglect, or domestic violence to a government authority, including a social service or protective services agency, authorized by law to receive reports of such abuse, neglect, or domestic violence:

**(i)** To the extent the [disclosure](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=076b99cf91351f84634847c70a060303&term_occur=6&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) is [required by law](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=6cb5417ce5bd25d6b28de6bfcbdc85b5&term_occur=3&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) and the [disclosure](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=076b99cf91351f84634847c70a060303&term_occur=7&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) complies with and is limited to the relevant requirements of such law;

**(ii)** If the [individual](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=8490b40f8ddb1b658047bf74d1757b07&term_occur=19&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) agrees to the [disclosure](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=076b99cf91351f84634847c70a060303&term_occur=8&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512); or

**(iii)** To the extent the [disclosure](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=076b99cf91351f84634847c70a060303&term_occur=9&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) is expressly authorized by statute or regulation and:

**(A)** The [covered entity](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=118c2846b72bdf7c20f71ae0e1cc95ee&term_occur=14&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512), in the exercise of professional judgment, believes the [disclosure](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=076b99cf91351f84634847c70a060303&term_occur=10&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) is necessary to prevent serious harm to the [individual](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=8490b40f8ddb1b658047bf74d1757b07&term_occur=20&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) or other potential victims; or

**(B)** If the [individual](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=8490b40f8ddb1b658047bf74d1757b07&term_occur=21&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) is unable to agree because of incapacity, a law enforcement or other public official authorized to receive the report represents that the [protected health information](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=7383a4ae647bf28b2388260d0de8b4ef&term_occur=9&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) for which [disclosure](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=076b99cf91351f84634847c70a060303&term_occur=11&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) is sought is not intended to be [used](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=a7df3745b9542d7c0f61426ea5f978d4&term_occur=11&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) against the [individual](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=8490b40f8ddb1b658047bf74d1757b07&term_occur=22&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) and that an immediate enforcement activity that depends upon the [disclosure](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=076b99cf91351f84634847c70a060303&term_occur=12&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) would be materially and adversely affected by waiting until the [individual](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=8490b40f8ddb1b658047bf74d1757b07&term_occur=23&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) is able to agree to the [disclosure](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=076b99cf91351f84634847c70a060303&term_occur=13&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512).

**(2) *Informing the individual.*** A [covered entity](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=118c2846b72bdf7c20f71ae0e1cc95ee&term_occur=15&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) that makes a [disclosure](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=076b99cf91351f84634847c70a060303&term_occur=14&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) permitted by [paragraph (c)(1)](https://www.law.cornell.edu/cfr/text/45/164.512#c_1) of this section must promptly inform the [individual](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=8490b40f8ddb1b658047bf74d1757b07&term_occur=24&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) that such a report has been or will be made, except if:

**(i)** The [covered entity](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=118c2846b72bdf7c20f71ae0e1cc95ee&term_occur=16&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512), in the exercise of professional judgment, believes informing the [individual](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=8490b40f8ddb1b658047bf74d1757b07&term_occur=25&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) would place the [individual](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=8490b40f8ddb1b658047bf74d1757b07&term_occur=26&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) at risk of serious harm; or

**(ii)** The [covered entity](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=118c2846b72bdf7c20f71ae0e1cc95ee&term_occur=17&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) would be informing a personal representative, and the [covered entity](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=118c2846b72bdf7c20f71ae0e1cc95ee&term_occur=18&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) reasonably believes the personal representative is responsible for the abuse, neglect, or other injury, and that informing such [person](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=4f4ea50a0f95401268cc349b8bfcdacf&term_occur=6&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) would not be in the best interests of the [individual](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=8490b40f8ddb1b658047bf74d1757b07&term_occur=27&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512) as determined by the [covered entity](https://www.law.cornell.edu/definitions/index.php?width=840&height=800&iframe=true&def_id=118c2846b72bdf7c20f71ae0e1cc95ee&term_occur=19&term_src=Title:45:Chapter:A:Subchapter:C:Part:164:Subpart:E:164.512), in the exercise of professional judgment.