CLIENT ALERT: NOVEMBER 18, 2008

COMPLIANCE DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR DATA SECURITY REGULATIONS

On Friday, November 14, 2008, the Massachusetts Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation ("OCABR") announced that it has extended the deadline for compliance with 201 CMR 17.00 et seq., the recently promulgated regulations governing the security, privacy, and confidentiality of personal information. The new compliance deadline is now May 1, 2009, extended from January 1, 2009, with the exception of the regulatory requirements concerning third party written certifications and encryption of portable media other than laptops. The deadline for compliance with these two requirements is further extended to January 1, 2010.

Note that Chapters 93H and 93I of the General Laws became effective on October 31, 2007, and February 3, 2008, respectively, and remain in effect. Your organization should already be in compliance with the security breach and document destruction requirements set forth in these statutes.

Please contact Attorney Becca Rausch with any questions about the extension or achieving compliance with the data security laws.

Links:

- OCABR press release regarding the deadline extension: http://tinyurl.com/6x6xwv
- Krokidas & Bluestein client alert regarding the new regulations: http://www.kb-law.com/articles/documents/DataSecurityRegulations.pdf
- Krokidas & Bluestein client alert regarding Chapters 93H and 93I: http://www.kb-law.com/articles/documents/ClientAlertreChapters93Hand93I.pdf

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