

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jennifer Beever, 818-347-4248, Email: jenb@newincite.com

Healthcare HITECH Privacy and Security Summit Provides Critical Compliance Content

Los Angeles, CA – May 3, 2013 - The Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Southern California and the Los Angeles Chapter of the Information Systems Security Association (ISSA-LA) have partnered to hold a special Healthcare HITECH Privacy and Security Summit, as part of the ISSA-LA Fifth Annual Information Security Summit **on Tuesday, May 21, 2013** at the Hilton Universal City Hotel in Los Angeles.

The timing of the Healthcare HITECH Privacy and Security Summit is critical because the content shared will include guidance to assist attendees with compliance with new HITECH/HIPAA Privacy, Security, and Enforcement Rules. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) published the rule January 17, 2013. All Covered Entities and Business Associates must be in compliance with the final rule by Sept. 23, 2013.

Investigations by the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) related to compliance with HIPAA will no longer be initiated just from complaints or self-reported breaches. HITECH now requires HHS to conduct periodic audits of covered entities' and business associates' compliance with the HIPAA Privacy Rule, Security Rule and Breach Notification standards. Attendees will learn how to prepare for an OCR audit, which many believe will start occurring after the September 23 date.

“According to the Open Security Foundation's DataLossDB, out of the 1,520 total incidents reported last year, 327 occurred in the medical industry, making it the most widely breached industry in the United States,” said Richard Greenberg, Information Security Officer for Los Angeles County Public Health, ISSA Fellow and ISSA-LA Board Member. The Open Security Foundation's DataLossDB, tracks the loss, theft, or exposure of personally identifiable information.

No other Los Angeles venue will have this level of expertise assembled together to tell people how to comply with the new rule, nor have such an assembly of information security luminaries. Yun-kyung (Peggy) Lee of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Civil Rights, will speak on what to do in case of an OCR investigation, and others speaking on compliance issues include: Tom August, CISSP, Director, Information Security, Sharp Healthcare; Cynthia Marcotte Stamer, JD, Attorney and Executive Director/Founder, Project COPE: The Coalition on Patient Empowerment; Maria Suarez, CISSP, CISM, CISA, Information Security Officer, University of Southern California; Michelle Caswell, JD, Risk & Compliance Consultant, Sword & Shield Enterprise Security; Sriram Bharadwaj, CISSP, Chair – Advocacy and Public Policy, SoCal HIMSS; Jennifer Papp, Privacy Officer, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services; and Katherine Waldron, COO, National Healthcare Information Sharing and Analysis Center. Howard Schmidt, former White House Cybersecurity Coordinator and Special Assistant to the President will be the opening keynote speaker of the Summit.

ISSA-LA is the premier catalyst and information source in Los Angeles for improving the practice of information security. The Chapter provides educational programs for information security and IT

professionals. The Chapter conducts outreach programs to businesses, financial institutions, nonprofits, governmental agencies, and consumers. ISSA-LA is the founding Chapter of the Information Systems Security Association, an international not-for-profit association of information security professionals and practitioners. For more information or to register for the Healthcare HITECH Privacy and Security Summit, please visit: <http://www.issala.org/summit/healthcare-hitech-privacy-and-security-summit>.