

Red Flags Rule Pushed Back Again

The deadline for the "red flags" identity theft rule has been delayed again at the last minute.

On Oct. 30, 2009, the deadline to comply with the rule was pushed back from Nov. 1 to June 1, 2010, to allow for more time for education.

Initially slated to go into effect Nov. 1, 2008, the rule requires creditors and financial institutions—including medical practices—to develop and implement identity theft prevention programs.

A US District Court recently ruled that attorneys are not required to comply with the red flags rule. The American Medical Association (AMA) is working for a similar exception for physicians and medical practices.

The Pennsylvania Medical Society has provided information and resources on the red flags rule, including a prevention program template, at www.pamedsoc.org/redflags.

Several resources, including a how-to guide and a prevention program template for low-risk businesses, also are available on the [FTC website](#).