

Alameda County HMIS

February 2025

Monthly HMIS User Meeting



Agenda!

Announcements

Privacy and Security

2FA

Inactive Users

Overlapping Enrollments

Missing Move in Dates

February Feature Updates

Public Alerts

Announcements

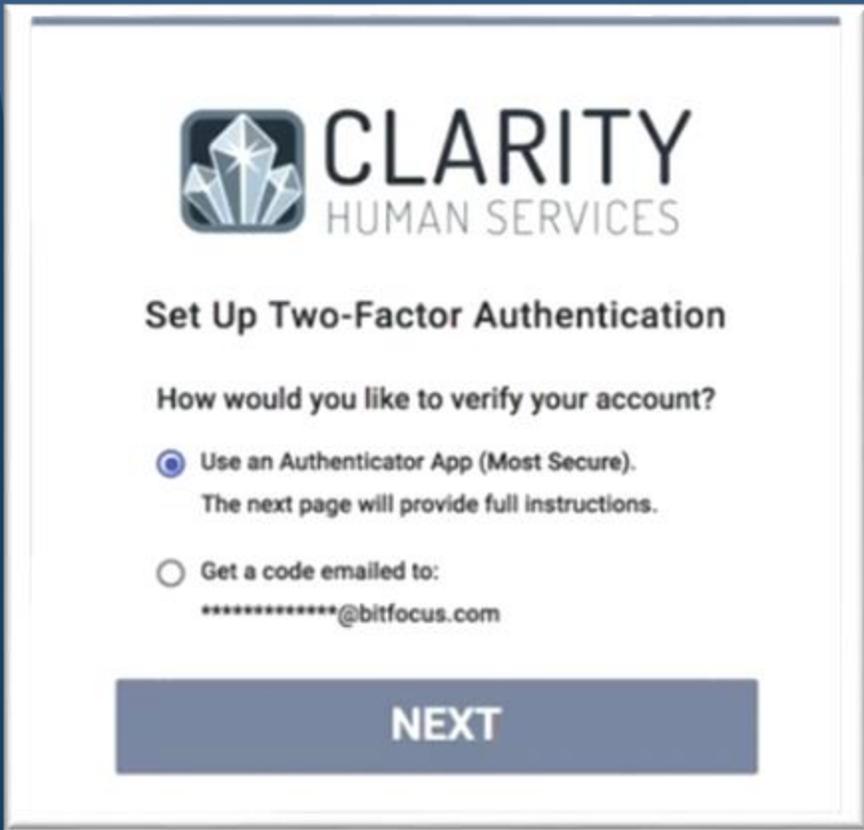




Privacy and Security

- Training needs to be completed by: **February 28, 2025 at noon.**
- After 12 p.m. on February 28, 2025, users who have not completed the Privacy and Security Training will have their accounts made inactive.
- Users will need to complete the training to have their accounts reactivated.

Two Factor Authentication (2FA)



The screenshot shows a web form for setting up Two-Factor Authentication. At the top left is the Clarity Human Services logo, which consists of a stylized diamond icon and the text 'CLARITY HUMAN SERVICES'. Below the logo, the heading reads 'Set Up Two-Factor Authentication'. The main question is 'How would you like to verify your account?'. There are two radio button options: the first is 'Use an Authenticator App (Most Secure)' with a note 'The next page will provide full instructions.'; the second is 'Get a code emailed to:' followed by a redacted email address '*****@bitfocus.com'. At the bottom of the form is a large blue button labeled 'NEXT'.

What is Two Factor Authentication (2FA)?

- Requires two separate pieces of information to confirm the user's identity.
 - Authenticator
 - Emailed Code



The method to authenticate a user's identity will be the same for future login procedures unless it is reset.



Go Live Date For All Users: March 1, 2025

Inactive Accounts

The HMIS system policy makes your account **inactive** if it has been unused for **60 days**.

→ If your account has been **unused for more than 60 days but less than 90 days**, email: alameda@bitfocus.com.

→ If your account is **unused for 90 days or more**, you must retake the training.

1. The user must retake the **Alameda: Privacy and Security Training and the Clarity Human Services: General Training**.
2. Once training has been completed, the Agency Liaison should contact the Bitfocus Help Desk at alameda@bitfocus.com to request reactivation of the account.

Please Note: Any reactivating request after 4:30pm will be reactive the following morning



Overlapping Enrollments



OVERLAPPING ENROLLMENTS

What is an overlapping enrollment?

A client's record in HMIS shows the client is a household in more than one shelter or housing program at the same time.

A client can only sleep in one place at a time. HMIS should reflect this.

HUD Guidance:

Overlapping stays in a housing (tracked by move-in date) or emergency services (tracked by bed night for night by night, enrollment/exit for Entry/Exit) program cannot overlap by the same day.

HOW THIS COULD APPEAR IN THE DATABASE SCENARIOS:

An agency enrolls a client into a shelter, and there is an existing enrollment in another shelter or program.

- Contact Agency/Staff to exit. The agency must exit a day before the enrollment date into the new shelter.

Move-in Date for the Housing Program is during a stay in a shelter

- Contact Shelter/Staff to exit. Cannot have move-in dates that fall within another program.



CHECKING FOR OVERLAPPING ENROLLMENTS

To check for overlapping enrollments, you can use the client History tab and the [\[GNRL-106\] Program Roster report](#) to do a regular audit of enrollments.

Potential Issues	Potential Fixes
Duplicate enrollments	Review and delete duplicate enrollment
Missing exits	Input correct exit dates for enrollments
Incorrect exit dates	Correct exit dates for enrollments

REMINDER: HUDs definition of “Housing Move-in Date” is the date that the client **PHYSICALLY** moves in (becomes housed).



OVERLAPPING ENROLLMENTS BY PROJECT TYPE:

- Overlapping enrollments by program type is a very common data quality error.
- An example of an overlapping enrollment by program type is:
 - *The client was in the New Beginning Center ES from 3/1/20 to 6/1/20. They entered MHA Mainstream for PH on 5/1/20, but their move-in date was either 5/1/20 or 6/1/20.*
 - This counts as overlapping enrollment because they were in the shelter while also being scheduled for permanent housing at MHA Mainstream.

CHECKING FOR OVERLAPPING ENROLLMENTS (CONT.)

TO CORRECT THE DUPLICATE ENROLLMENTS:

- Select the Preferred Enrollment:
 - Pick the enrollment with more detailed information.
- Update Chosen Enrollment:
 - Add missing data from the duplicate enrollment.
 - Transfer any services to the chosen enrollment.
- Confirm and Delete:
 - Review changes made.
 - Contact the Helpdesk to delete the duplicate enrollment.

TO CORRECT THE EXIT DATES:

- Navigate to Client Profile
- Click on “History”
- Select the Program with the incorrect Exit Date
- Click on the “X” at the top right-hand corner of the Programs history page.
- Correct the exit date for the enrollment.
- Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click “Save Changes”
- Make sure to review the changes that you made.

In general, we do not expect overlapping days in the project among and between the following project types: **Emergency shelter, Safe haven, or Transitional housing**

Move-in Dates



Move-in Dates

The Housing Move-in Dates are required by all housing programs.

- “Move-in” means a lease arrangement has been made, the client has a key or entry ability to the unit, and the client has physically slept in the unit. This date may or may not align with the lease date.
- Must be recorded at the point the household moves into a permanent living situation.



February Feature Updates

- Social Security Number Masking
 - Pentaho Reports Update
- Social Security Number “Pop Up” Functionality



Social Security Number (SSN Masking)

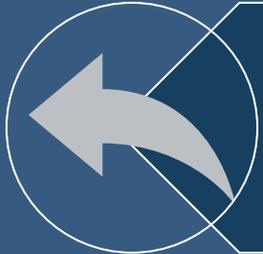
Previous	Issue	Solution	Reporting
SSNs were masked using "X."	Non-numeric values are accepted entries for partial SSNs.	Mask SSNs with an asterisk	All impacted reports have been updated to mimic masking updates for SSNs.

CLIENT PROFILE

Social Security Number *** - ** - 98xx 

Quality of SSN Approximate or partial SSN reported

Social Security Number Pop-Up Functionality



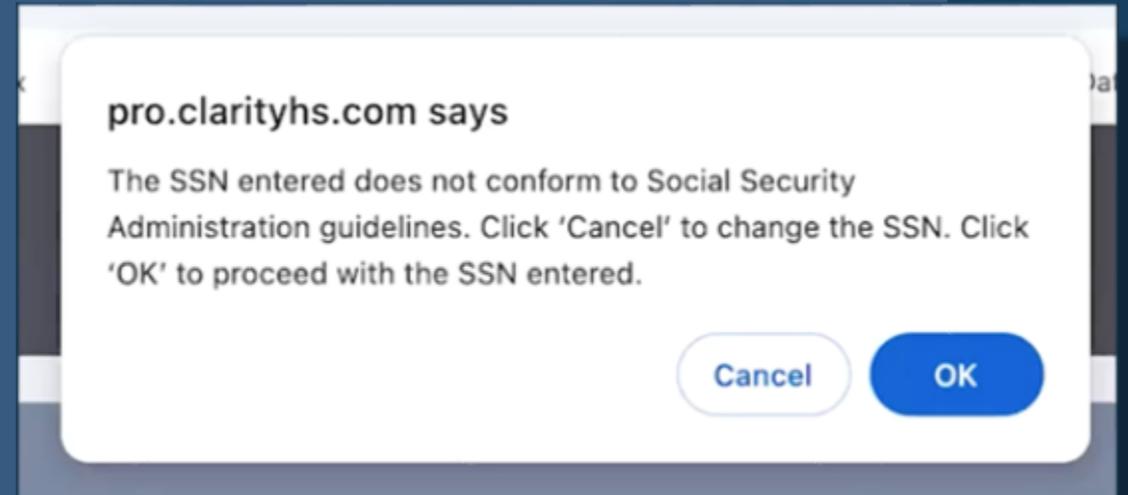
Previous: Pop-up occurred for non-numeric inputs



Issue: Non-numeric values are accepted entries for partial SSNs.



Solution: Pop-up no longer appears for valid SSN entries



Public Alerts



Public Alerts provide a way to direct users to important information within a client record by displaying an alert

In the client record, Public Alerts appear as a gold banner across the top of the client profile

Public Alerts can only be edited/changed by a user from the same agency as the one that created it

CLIENT PROFILE

 **Public Alert:** This client has been issued system-wide alert. Please review notes for full details.

[REVIEW NOTES](#)

Public Alerts: Keys Points

01.

Stick to facts

03.

Use neutral language

02.

Protect Privacy

04.

Be clear and concise; a long note may not be read

Public Alerts: How to Use Them



Indicate A Client's
Contact
Information Has
Changed



Indicate a BOLO
(Be On the
Lookout) has been
issued to locate
the client



Inform other users
who view the
client's profile
that an important
deadline is
approaching



Announce When
A Client Has Lost
An Item And/Or
An Item Belonging
To The Client Has
Been Found



Public Alerts: What Not To Do

Share Physical Health Or Behavioral Health Details About A Client



Share Criminal History Details About A Client



Share Information About Other Clients



Public Alerts: How to Add

The screenshot shows the 'Blue Sky' client profile interface. At the top, a navigation menu includes 'PROFILE', 'HISTORY', 'SERVICES', 'PROGRAMS', 'ASSESSMENTS', 'NOTES', 'FILES', 'CONTACT', 'LOCATION', and 'REFERRALS'. The 'NOTES' tab is highlighted with a red box. Below the navigation is a yellow warning banner: '⚠ Release of Information is Missing or Permission Not Provided. Please review to ensure compliance.' The main content area is divided into two sections: 'CLIENT NOTES' and 'PUBLIC ALERTS'. Both sections show 'No results found' with a placeholder icon. The 'ADD NOTE +' button in the 'CLIENT NOTES' section and the 'ADD ALERT +' button in the 'PUBLIC ALERTS' section are both highlighted with red boxes. A red arrow points from the 'NOTES' tab to the 'ADD ALERT +' button.

1. From the client's profile screen, click on the **NOTES** tab.
2. Then click on the "Add Alert +" button to start a new alert.

Public Alerts: How to Add

1. You can edit the following items for the public alert:
 - Title
 - Expiration Date (required)
 - Note
2. The *agency* will **default to the Agency you are under** and cannot be changed.
3. Click “Save Changes” to add the alert.

PUBLIC ALERTS

Title	Client is matched to a housing resource that will expire soon.
Agency	System
Expiration Date	03/02/2025 
Note	<div><p>B <i>I</i>  </p><p>The client has been matched to a PSH Program, and the opening to this resource will expire on 03/01. Please have them contact their case manager, Nancy Drew, at 555-5555.</p></div>

Questions?



Join us!

[Alameda County Q&A Session](#)

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am

Register | [HERE](#)

[Alameda County User and Liaisons Meeting](#)

Every 4th Thursday of the month

Alameda Users 10a-11a

Agency Liaisons 11a-12p

Register | [HERE](#)



For support:

Alameda County HMIS Support Ticket:

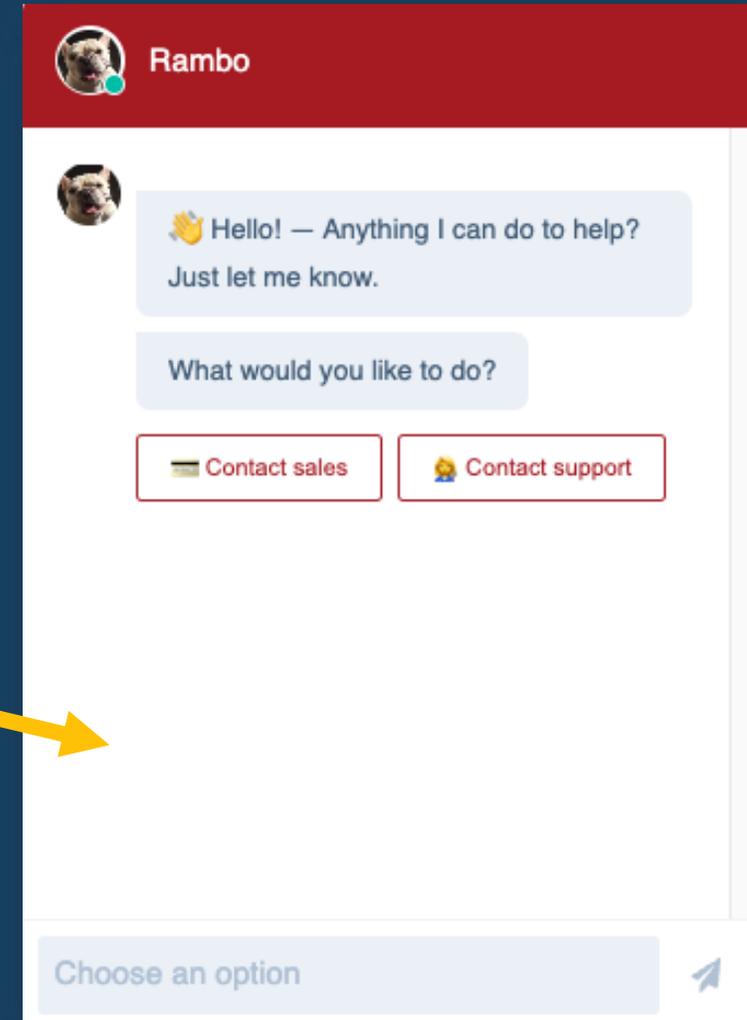
Email: hmissupport@achmis.org

Bitfocus Help Desk:

For support that includes:

- New User Requests (Including CE)
- Password Reset
- Login Issues
- Chat

Email: Alameda@bitfocus.com



Alameda County HMIS

February 2025

Monthly HMIS Liaison Meeting



Agenda!

Announcements

Privacy and Security

2FA

Inactive Users

Overlapping Enrollments

Missing Move in Dates

February Feature Updates

Public Alerts

Announcements

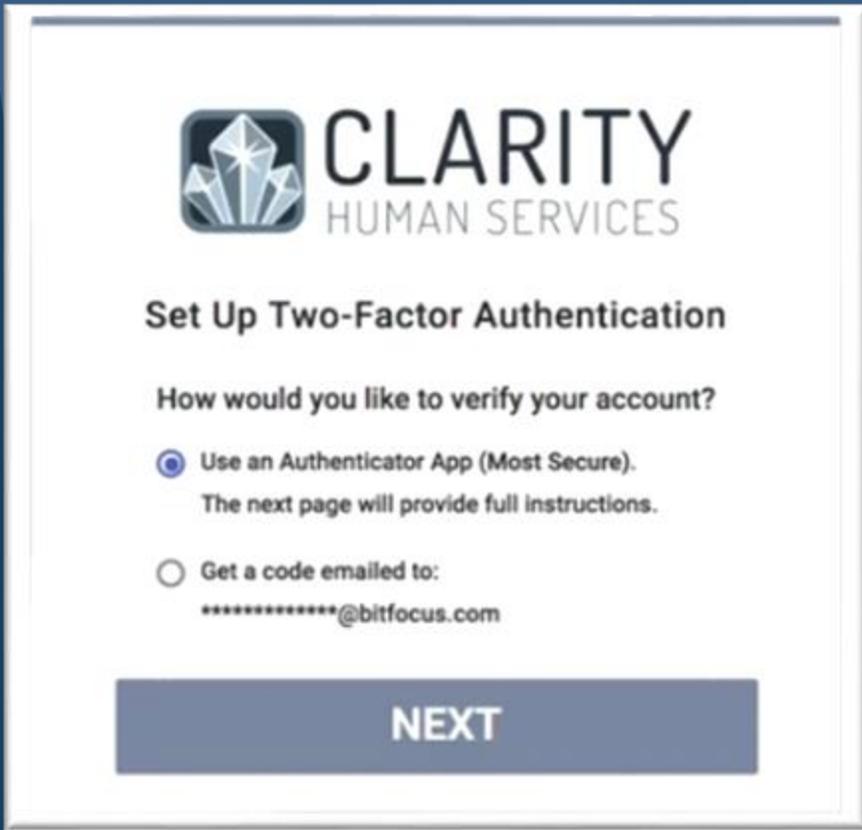




Privacy and Security

- Training needs to be completed by: **February 28, 2025 at noon.**
- After 12 p.m. on February 28, 2025, users who have not completed the Privacy and Security Training will have their accounts made inactive.
- Users will need to complete the training to have their accounts reactivated.

Two Factor Authentication (2FA)



The screenshot shows a web form for setting up Two-Factor Authentication. At the top left is the Clarity Human Services logo, which consists of a stylized diamond icon and the text 'CLARITY HUMAN SERVICES'. Below the logo is the heading 'Set Up Two-Factor Authentication'. The main question is 'How would you like to verify your account?'. There are two radio button options: the first is 'Use an Authenticator App (Most Secure)' with a sub-note 'The next page will provide full instructions.'; the second is 'Get a code emailed to:' followed by a redacted email address '*****@bitfocus.com'. At the bottom of the form is a large blue button labeled 'NEXT'.

What is Two Factor Authentication (2FA)?

- Requires two separate pieces of information to confirm the user's identity.
 - Authenticator
 - Emailed Code



The method to authenticate a user's identity will be the same for future login procedures unless it is reset.



Go Live Date For All Users: March 1, 2025

Inactive Accounts

The HMIS system policy makes your account **inactive** if it has been unused for **60 days**.

→ If your account has been **unused for more than 60 days but less than 90 days**, email: alameda@bitfocus.com.

→ If your account is **unused for 90 days or more**, you must retake the training.

1. The user must retake the **Alameda: Privacy and Security Training and the Clarity Human Services: General Training**.
2. Once training has been completed, the Agency Liaison should contact the Bitfocus Help Desk at alameda@bitfocus.com to request reactivation of the account.

Please Note: Any reactivating request after 4:30pm will be reactive the following morning



Overlapping Enrollments



OVERLAPPING ENROLLMENTS

What is an overlapping enrollment?

A client's record in HMIS shows the client is a household in more than one shelter or housing program at the same time.

A client can only sleep in one place at a time. HMIS should reflect this.

HUD Guidance:

Overlapping stays in a housing (tracked by move-in date) or emergency services (tracked by bed night for night by night, enrollment/exit for Entry/Exit) program cannot overlap by the same day.

HOW THIS COULD APPEAR IN THE DATABASE SCENARIOS:

An agency enrolls a client into a shelter, and there is an existing enrollment in another shelter or program.

- Contact Agency/Staff to exit. The agency must exit a day before the enrollment date into the new shelter.

Move-in Date for the Housing Program is during a stay in a shelter

- Contact Shelter/Staff to exit. Cannot have move-in dates that fall within another program.



CHECKING FOR OVERLAPPING ENROLLMENTS

To check for overlapping enrollments, you can use the client History tab and the [\[GNRL-106\] Program Roster report](#) to do a regular audit of enrollments.

Potential Issues	Potential Fixes
Duplicate enrollments	Review and delete duplicate enrollment
Missing exits	Input correct exit dates for enrollments
Incorrect exit dates	Correct exit dates for enrollments

REMINDER: HUDs definition of “Housing Move-in Date” is the date that the client **PHYSICALLY** moves in (becomes housed).



OVERLAPPING ENROLLMENTS BY PROJECT TYPE:

- Overlapping enrollments by program type is a very common data quality error.
- An example of an overlapping enrollment by program type is:
 - *The client was in the New Beginning Center ES from 3/1/20 to 6/1/20. They entered MHA Mainstream for PH on 5/1/20, but their move-in date was either 5/1/20 or 6/1/20.*
 - This counts as overlapping enrollment because they were in the shelter while also being scheduled for permanent housing at MHA Mainstream.

CHECKING FOR OVERLAPPING ENROLLMENTS (CONT.)

TO CORRECT THE DUPLICATE ENROLLMENTS:

- Select the Preferred Enrollment:
 - Pick the enrollment with more detailed information.
- Update Chosen Enrollment:
 - Add missing data from the duplicate enrollment.
 - Transfer any services to the chosen enrollment.
- Confirm and Delete:
 - Review changes made.
 - Contact the Helpdesk to delete the duplicate enrollment.

TO CORRECT THE EXIT DATES:

- Navigate to Client Profile
- Click on “History”
- Select the Program with the incorrect Exit Date
- Click on the “X” at the top right-hand corner of the Programs history page.
- Correct the exit date for the enrollment.
- Scroll down to the bottom of the page and click “Save Changes”
- Make sure to review the changes that you made.

In general, we do not expect overlapping days in the project among and between the following project types: **Emergency shelter, Safe haven, or Transitional housing**

Move-in Dates



Move-in Dates

The Housing Move-in Dates are required by all housing programs.

- “Move-in” means a lease arrangement has been made, the client has a key or entry ability to the unit, and the client has physically slept in the unit. This date may or may not align with the lease date.
- Must be recorded at the point the household moves into a permanent living situation.



February Feature Updates

- Social Security Number Masking
 - Pentaho Reports Update
- Social Security Number “Pop Up” Functionality



Social Security Number (SSN Masking)

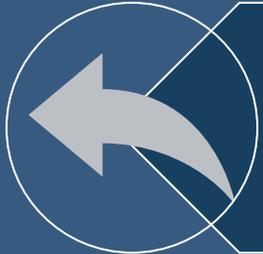
Previous	Issue	Solution	Reporting
SSNs were masked using "X."	Non-numeric values are accepted entries for partial SSNs.	Mask SSNs with an asterisk	All impacted reports have been updated to mimic masking updates for SSNs.

CLIENT PROFILE

Social Security Number *** - ** - 98xx 

Quality of SSN Approximate or partial SSN reported

Social Security Number Pop-Up Functionality



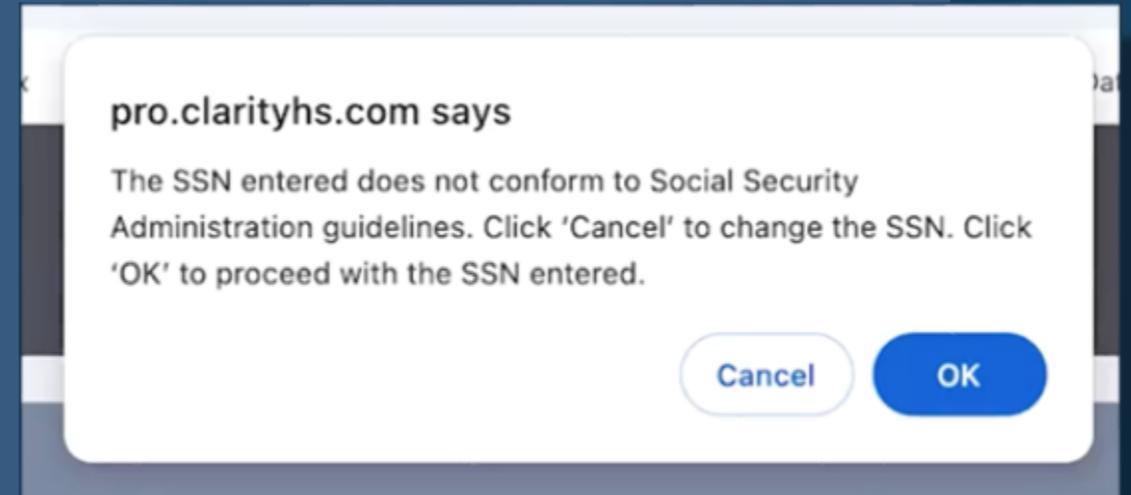
Previous: Pop-up occurred for non-numeric inputs



Issue: Non-numeric values are accepted entries for partial SSNs.



Solution: Pop-up no longer appears for valid SSN entries



Public Alerts



Public Alerts provide a way to direct users to important information within a client record by displaying an alert

In the client record, Public Alerts appear as a gold banner across the top of the client profile

Public Alerts can only be edited/changed by a user from the same agency as the one that created it

CLIENT PROFILE

 **Public Alert:** This client has been issued system-wide alert. Please review notes for full details.

[REVIEW NOTES](#)

Public Alerts: Keys Points

01.

Stick to facts

03.

Use neutral language

02.

Protect Privacy

04.

Be clear and concise; a long note may not be read

Public Alerts: How to Use Them



Indicate A Client's
Contact
Information Has
Changed



Indicate a BOLO
(Be On the
Lookout) has been
issued to locate
the client



Inform other users
who view the
client's profile
that an important
deadline is
approaching



Announce When
A Client Has Lost
An Item And/Or
An Item Belonging
To The Client Has
Been Found



Public Alerts: What Not To Do

Share Physical Health Or Behavioral Health Details About A Client



Share Criminal History Details About A Client



Share Information About Other Clients



Public Alerts: How to Add

The screenshot displays the 'Blue Sky' client profile interface. At the top, a navigation menu includes 'PROFILE', 'HISTORY', 'SERVICES', 'PROGRAMS', 'ASSESSMENTS', 'NOTES', 'FILES', 'CONTACT', 'LOCATION', and 'REFERRALS'. The 'NOTES' tab is highlighted with a red box. Below the navigation is a yellow warning banner: '⚠ Release of Information is Missing or Permission Not Provided. Please review to ensure compliance.' The main content area is divided into two sections: 'CLIENT NOTES' and 'PUBLIC ALERTS'. Both sections show a 'No results found' message with a 3D bar chart icon. The 'ADD NOTE +' button is visible in the top right of the 'CLIENT NOTES' section, and the 'ADD ALERT +' button is visible in the top right of the 'PUBLIC ALERTS' section. A red arrow points from the 'NOTES' tab to the 'ADD ALERT +' button.

1. From the client's profile screen, click on the **NOTES** tab.
2. Then click on the "Add Alert +" button to start a new alert.

Public Alerts: How to Add

1. You can edit the following items for the public alert:
 - Title
 - Expiration Date (required)
 - Note
2. The *agency* will **default to the Agency you are under** and cannot be changed.
3. Click “Save Changes” to add the alert.

PUBLIC ALERTS

Title	Client is matched to a housing resource that will expire soon.
Agency	System
Expiration Date	03/02/2025 
Note	<p>B <i>I</i>  </p> <p>The client has been matched to a PSH Program, and the opening to this resource will expire on 03/01. Please have them contact their case manager, Nancy Drew, at 555-5555.</p>

Questions?



Join us!

[Alameda County Q&A Session](#)

Every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am

Register | [HERE](#)

[Alameda County User and Liaisons Meeting](#)

Every 4th Thursday of the month

Alameda Users 10a-11a

Agency Liaisons 11a-12p

Register | [HERE](#)



For support:

Alameda County HMIS Support Ticket:

Email: hmissupport@achmis.org

Bitfocus Help Desk:

For support that includes:

- New User Requests (Including CE)
- Password Reset
- Login Issues
- Chat

Email: Alameda@bitfocus.com

