

Knowing What to Shred in the Legal Industry

Personal data and the confidential information of your clients, employees and your firm must be protected. It's not just good practice, it's the law.

What to shred:

Although individual needs may vary, here is a list of what to shred in the legal industry:

Legal Documents

- » Client/witness depositions
- » Client financial documents
- » Client credit reports
- » Discovery documents
- » Police reports
- » Demand letter
- » Client contracts
- » Plaintiff statements

Procurement

- » Corporate records
- » Supplier purchase orders
- » Supplier specifications
- » Supplier records

Executive Level

- » Budgets
- » Correspondance
- » Strategic reports
- » Legal contracts
- » Financial statements

Accounting and Information Technology

- » Financial reports
- » Balance sheets
- » Internal audits
- » Bank statements

Human Resources

- » Applications
- » Resumes
- » Health and safety issues
- » Medical records
- » Performance appraisals
- » Training information and manuals
- » Payroll information

Still Confused?

Ask yourself the following questions. If you answer YES to any of the questions, then SHRED the document.

1. Does it have any personally identifiable information (PII)?
2. Does it contain information protected by privacy laws?
3. Does it violate any privacy laws?
3. Does it share any confidential corporate information?
4. Does the document list any financial information?



Tips to keep all your data secure

Use the following tips in order to keep your data secure and avoid the risk of a data breach:

Identify Areas of Risk

Conduct a self-risk assessment and a walk through of your office to identify areas of risk such as, printing stations, messy desks, and exposed recycling bins. Flag these vulnerabilities and develop policies that can help to remove the risk.

Develop Retention Schedules

All documents have a recommended period of retention depending on their importance. Some may be required to be kept forever, whereas others may be disposed of. Follow document retention schedules to ensure that your office remains clutter free.

Adopt a *Shred-it All* Policy

Often there is lots of confusion when deciding whether or not a document should be shred. By implementing a *Shred-it All* Policy at your workplace, you ensure that ALL documents are shred - that way, all information remains confidential.

Reinforce Policies through Reminders and Rewards

To get buy-in from employees, place posters reminding them of the new policies in place to protect confidential information in the workplace. You can also incentivize good behavior through rewards such as team member recognition.



To keep your law firm secure,
contact Shred-it today.
877-231-0634 | shredit.com/law

