Overview of Key FERPA Changes in 2009 and 2012

In 2009, the Dept. of Ed comprehensively revised the FERPA regulations, reflecting court decisions, post-Virginia Tech improvements, technological advances, etc. Issues that may impact Princeton include the following:

- Control of School Official access
- Health & Safety Emergency
- Authenticating disclosees
- Controls for outsourcing
- Use of SSN and Student ID
- Definition of “Personally Identifiable”
- Disclosure (to Creator of Records)
- Opt Out procedures

In early 2012, the Dept. made additional regulatory changes, intended to facilitate data collection by state longitudinal data systems (“SLDS”), but also revising various definitions. An issue that may impact Princeton includes new regulations for disclosure to authorized representatives of a state or local educational authority.

If you regularly work with student records, we suggest that you attend a training by the Office of the General Counsel on this topic.