Enterprise Data Management Council

DECISION: Deceased Persons in Person API

EDGC Decision Date: August 12, 2024

Decision

Move forward with adding deceased persons to the Person API with the understanding that any API consumer approved for "Sensitive Person Deceased" will see this record regardless of previous institutional affiliation(s).

Background

The Person API is adding deceased person records to meet use cases for institutions that use this information for deprovisioning. When a person record changes to deceased, all job and former job information stops flowing through to our data source. The person record is stripped down to a limited amount of data elements including source key, PVI, deceased flag, and name.

The Person API restricts data available to API consumers based on the institutions they are permitted to view. For example, an application approved for UW-Madison will only see people that have an affiliation with that institution. Additionally, to view deceased persons, an API consumer must have the "Sensitive Demographics" permission.

Because deceased person records lack any job data, there is no institution affiliation for that person any longer. This means that the Person API is unable to restrict this person record to the institution(s) to which they previously belonged. All API consumers that have the "Sensitive Demographics" permission will be able to see the deceased person record regardless of the institution(s) to which that person previously had affiliations.

Recommendation

Move forward with adding deceased persons to the Person API. The existing permission "Sensitive Person Deceased" limits the ability of API consumers to see deceased persons, and the data present in deceased person records is limited to low-risk data like source key, PVI, deceased flag, and name.

Who Developed the Recommendation?

This recommendation was developed by:

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