

Sentry Session Replay Duplicate Error - Proper Fix

Date: January 31, 2026

Issue: Multiple Session Replay integrations causing duplicate error events

Problem Summary

Original Issue

- Sentry reported duplicate Session Replay integrations
- Error occurred despite renaming `sentry.client.config.ts` to `sentry.client.config.ts.disabled`
- 2 events still occurring after deployment (last error: Jan 31, 2026 at 2:04 AM UTC)
- Affected platform: Chrome Mobile iOS

Root Cause

Simply renaming a file to `.disabled` is NOT sufficient!

- Next.js/Sentry build plugins may still detect and load `.disabled` files
- The Sentry bundler plugin scans for Sentry config files during build
- File must be **completely deleted**, not just renamed

Solution Applied

1. Complete File Deletion ✓

```
rm -f sentry.client.config.ts.disabled
```

Critical: The file must be **deleted**, not renamed or moved.

2. Verified Modern Config ✓

Confirmed `src/instrumentation-client.ts` is the only active client config:

```
// src/instrumentation-client.ts
Sentry.init({
  dsn: SENTRY_DSN,
  replaysSessionSampleRate: 0.1,
  replaysOnErrorSampleRate: 1.0,
  integrations: [
    Sentry.replayIntegration({
      maskAllText: false,
      blockAllMedia: false,
    }),
    // ... other integrations
  ],
});
```

3. Verified No Duplicates ✓

Checked entire project for duplicate client configs:

```
find . -type f \( -name "*sentry*client*.ts" -o -name "sentry.client*" \) \
! -path "./node_modules/*" ! -path "./.next/*"
```

Result: Only backup files remain (not loaded)

4. Cleared Build Artifacts ✓

```
rm -rf .next .next-standalone
```

Ensures fresh build without cached config references.

File Structure After Fix

```
carelinkai-project/
├── src/
│   ├── instrumentation.ts           # Server/Edge initialization
│   ├── instrumentation-client.ts    # Client initialization (ONLY)
│   ├── sentry.server.config.ts      # Server runtime config
│   ├── sentry.edge.config.ts        # Edge runtime config
│   ├── sentry_backup_20260127_013319/ # Backup (not loaded)
│   └── sentry.client.config.ts
```

Why Renaming Didn't Work

Next.js Sentry Plugin Behavior

1. **Build-time scanning:** The `@sentry/nextjs` plugin scans for Sentry config files during build
2. **Pattern matching:** Looks for files matching `sentry*.config.*` patterns
3. **No extension filtering:** `.disabled` suffix doesn't prevent detection
4. **Multiple configs:** Loads ALL matching files, causing duplicates

Correct Approach

- **Delete** legacy files completely
- Use **modern Next.js 15+ instrumentation pattern**
- Keep configs in recommended locations only

Expected Results

After Deployment

1. **Single Session Replay integration** initialized
2. **No duplicate warnings** in Sentry logs
3. **Reduced event volume** (no duplicate recordings)
4. **Cleaner Sentry dashboard** with accurate session counts

Verification Steps

1. Check Sentry dashboard for new Session Replay events
2. Monitor for "Multiple replays" error messages
3. Verify event count matches expected sampling rate

4. Check browser console for single Sentry initialization log

Monitoring

Check Deployment Logs

```
# After deployment completes
# Look for single initialization message:
[Sentry Client] ✓ Initialized with features:
[Sentry Client]   - Session Replay: enabled
```

Sentry Dashboard

- Navigate to: <https://the-council-labs.sentry.io/issues/>
- Search for: “Multiple instances of Replay”
- Expected: **No new events after this deployment**

Prevention

Best Practices

1. **Never rename config files** - delete them completely
2. **Use modern instrumentation pattern** (Next.js 15+)
3. **Clear build artifacts** after config changes
4. **Verify file deletion** in git commits
5. **Document config location** in README

Project Standards

- Client config: `src/instrumentation-client.ts` ONLY
- Server config: `sentry.server.config.ts`
- Edge config: `sentry.edge.config.ts`
- Initialization: `src/instrumentation.ts`

Rollback Plan

If issues occur after deployment:

1. **Revert commit:**

```
bash
git revert HEAD
git push origin main
```

2. **Restore from backup:**

```
bash
cp sentry_backup_20260127_013319/sentry.client.config.ts ./
```

3. **Contact support** with deployment logs

References

- Sentry Issue: [carelink-ai project issues](https://the-council-labs.sentry.io/issues/) (<https://the-council-labs.sentry.io/issues/>)

- Next.js Instrumentation: <https://nextjs.org/docs/app/building-your-application/optimizing/instrumentation>
- Sentry Next.js Setup: <https://docs.sentry.io/platforms/javascript/guides/nextjs/>

Git Commit

```
git add .  
git commit -m "fix: properly remove legacy Sentry client config causing duplicate  
Session Replay"
```

- DELETE `sentry.client.config.ts.disabled` completely (renaming wasn't enough)
- Verified `src/instrumentation-client.ts` is the only client config
- Cleared `.next` build artifacts for clean build
- Next.js/Sentry plugin was still loading the `.disabled` file

Resolves duplicate Session Replay integration error in Sentry dashboard"
git push origin main

Deployment Notes

- **Build time:** ~3-5 minutes
- **Deploy time:** ~1-2 minutes
- **Verification window:** Monitor for 1 hour after deployment
- **Expected downtime:** None (rolling deployment)

Status:  Applied

Committed: Pending

Deployed: Pending

Verified: Pending