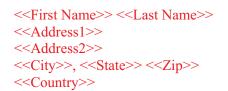


P.O. Box 989728 West Sacramento, CA 95798-9728





December 16, 2024

#### **Notice of Data Breach**

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>,

# What Happened

Martin Sprocket & Gear, Inc. ("MSG") writes to inform you of an incident that involved your personal information.

On or about July 29, 2024, we learned that a data security incident that affected our computer environment may have impacted your information.

We take this incident seriously, and this letter provides details of the incident, our response, and steps you may take to better protect against possible misuse of your personal information, should you feel it is appropriate to do so. Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. Upon learning of this incident, we reported the incident to law enforcement. As of the date of this letter, there was no law enforcement report generated in this matter. If you are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report.

You may also place a security freeze on your credit reports, free of charge. A security freeze prohibits a credit reporting agency from releasing any information from a consumer's credit report without written authorization. However, please be aware that placing a security freeze on your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prevent the timely approval of any requests you make for new loans, credit mortgages, employment, housing or other services. Under federal law, you cannot be charged to place, lift, or remove a security freeze.

You must place your request for a freeze with each of the three major consumer reporting agencies: Equifax (<a href="www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>); Experian (<a href="www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>); and TransUnion (<a href="www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>). To place a security freeze on your credit report, you may send a written request by regular, certified or overnight mail at the addresses below. You may also place a security freeze through each of the consumer reporting agencies' websites or over the phone, using the contact information below:

Equifax Fraud Reporting 1-866-525-6285 P.O. Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374 www.equifax.com Experian Fraud Reporting 1-888-397-3742 P.O. Box 4500 Allen, TX 75013 www.experian.com TransUnion Fraud Reporting 1-800-680-7289 P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016 www.transunion.com In order to request a security freeze, you will need to provide some or all of the following information to the credit reporting agency, depending on whether you do so online, by phone, or by mail:

- 1. Your full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
- 2. Social Security Number;
- 3. Date of birth;
- 4. If you have moved in the past five (5) years, the addresses where you have lived over the prior five years;
- 5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill, telephone bill, rental agreement, or deed;
- 6. A legible photocopy of a government issued identification card (state driver's license or ID card, military identification, etc.);
- 7. Social Security Card, pay stub, or W2;
- 8. If you are a victim of identity theft, include a copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft.

The credit reporting agencies have one (1) to three (3) business days after receiving your request to place a security freeze on your credit report, based upon the method of your request. The credit bureaus must also send written confirmation to you within five (5) business days and provide you with a unique personal identification number (PIN) or password (or both) that can be used by you to authorize the removal or lifting of the security freeze. It is important to maintain this PIN/password in a secure place, as you will need it to lift or remove the security freeze.

To lift the security freeze in order to allow a specific entity or individual access to your credit report, you must make a request to each of the credit reporting agencies by mail, through their website, or by phone (using the contact information above). You must provide proper identification (including name, address, and social security number) and the PIN number or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze, as well as the identities of those entities or individuals you would like to receive your credit report. You may also temporarily lift a security freeze for a specified period of time rather than for a specific entity or individual, using the same contact information above. The credit bureaus have between one (1) hour (for requests made online) and three (3) business days (for request made by mail) after receiving your request to lift the security freeze for those identified entities or for the specified period of time.

To remove the security freeze, you must make a request to each of the credit reporting agencies by mail, through their website, or by phone (using the contact information above). You must provide proper identification (name, address, and social security number) and the PIN number or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze. The credit bureaus have between one (1) hour (for requests made online) and three (3) business days (for requests made by mail) after receiving your request to remove the security freeze.

In response to the incident, we are providing you with access to **Single Bureau Credit Monitoring** services at no charge. These services provide you with alerts for **24 months** from the date of enrollment when changes occur to your credit file. This notification is sent to you the same day that the change or update takes place with the bureau. Finally, we are providing you with proactive fraud assistance to help with any questions that you might have or in event that you become a victim of fraud. These services will be provided by IDX, which specializes in fraud assistance and remediation services.

To enroll in Credit Monitoring services at no charge, please log on to <a href="https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect">https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</a> and follow the instructions provided. When prompted please provide the following unique code to receive services: << ENROLLMENT>>>

In order for you to receive the monitoring services described above, you must enroll within 90 days from the date of this letter. The enrollment requires an internet connection and e-mail account and may not be available to minors under the age of 18 years of age. Please note that when signing up for monitoring services, you may be asked to verify personal information for your own protection to confirm your identity.

## What You Can Do

The events that have occurred do not automatically mean that you are a victim of identity theft. However, we encourage you to remain vigilant and to continually review your healthcare insurance information. Additionally, you should continually review your credit report, bank account activity, and bank statements for irregularities or unauthorized items, and to immediately report any unauthorized charges to your financial institution. We also encourage you to enroll in the free identity protection services.

#### What You Can Do

The events that have occurred do not automatically mean that you are a victim of identity theft. However, we encourage you to remain vigilant and to continually review your healthcare insurance information. Additionally, you should continually review your credit report, bank account activity, and bank statements for irregularities or unauthorized items, and to immediately report any unauthorized charges to your financial institution. We also encourage you to enroll in the free identity protection services.

## Who is MSG?

MSG is a custom manufacturer. If you received this letter, you or your family member may either be a current or former MSG employee.

#### For More Information

You will find additional information on the enclosed Recommended Steps to Help Protect Your Information document.

We value your privacy and sincerely regret any inconvenience this matter may cause. Your confidence in our ability to safeguard your personal information and your peace of mind are very important to us.

Representatives are available for 90 days from the date of this letter, to assist you with questions regarding this incident, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Central Time, Monday through Friday, excluding major US holidays. Please call the help line at 1-877-719-6297 and supply the fraud specialist with your unique code listed above. Alternatively, you may go to <a href="https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect">https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</a> for assistance or for any additional questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Chuck Reynolds

Chuck Reynolds Chief Business Executive Martin Sprocket & Gear, Inc.

(Enclosure)



# **Recommended Steps to Help Protect Your Information**

- **1. Website and Enrollment.** Scan the QR image or go to <a href="https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect">https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</a> and follow the instructions for enrollment using your Enrollment Code provided at the top of the letter.
- **2. Activate the credit monitoring** provided as part of your IDX identity protection membership. The monitoring included in the membership must be activated to be effective. Note: You must have established credit and access to a computer and the internet to use this service. If you need assistance, IDX will be able to assist you.
- **3. Telephone.** Contact IDX at 1-877-719-6297 to gain additional information about this event and speak with knowledgeable representatives about the appropriate steps to take to protect your credit identity.
- **4. Review your credit reports.** We recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring credit reports. Under federal law, you also are entitled every 12 months to one free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting companies. To obtain a free annual credit report, go to <a href="https://www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a> or call 1-877-322-8228. You may wish to stagger your requests so that you receive a free report by one of the three credit bureaus every four months.

If you discover any suspicious items and have enrolled in IDX identity protection, notify them immediately by calling or by logging into the IDX website and filing a request for help.

If you file a request for help or report suspicious activity, you will be contacted by a member of our ID Care team who will help you determine the cause of the suspicious items. In the unlikely event that you fall victim to identity theft as a consequence of this incident, you will be assigned an ID Care Specialist who will work on your behalf to identify, stop and reverse the damage quickly.

You should also know that you have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity fraud. Please note that in order to file a crime report or incident report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some kind of proof that you have been a victim. A police report is often required to dispute fraudulent items. You can report suspected incidents of identity theft to local law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

**5. Place Fraud Alerts** with the three credit bureaus. If you choose to place a fraud alert, we recommend you do this after activating your credit monitoring. You can place a fraud alert at one of the three major credit bureaus by phone and also via Experian's or Equifax's website. A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you, before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit. The contact information for all three bureaus is as follows:

## **Credit Bureaus**

Equifax Fraud Reporting 1-866-349-5191 P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069 www.equifax.com Experian Fraud Reporting 1-888-397-3742 P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 www.experian.com

TransUnion Fraud Reporting 1-800-680-7289 P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19022-2000 www.transunion.com

It is necessary to contact only ONE of these bureaus and use only ONE of these methods. As soon as one of the three bureaus confirms your fraud alert, the others are notified to place alerts on their records as well. You will receive confirmation letters in the mail and will then be able to order all three credit reports, free of charge, for your review. An initial fraud alert will last for one year.

Please Note: No one is allowed to place a fraud alert on your credit report except you.

- **6. Security Freeze.** By placing a security freeze, someone who fraudulently acquires your personal identifying information will not be able to use that information to open new accounts or borrow money in your name. You will need to contact the three national credit reporting bureaus listed above to place the freeze. Keep in mind that when you place the freeze, you will not be able to borrow money, obtain instant credit, or get a new credit card until you temporarily lift or permanently remove the freeze. There is no cost to freeze or unfreeze your credit files.
- **7. You can obtain additional information** about the steps you can take to avoid identity theft from the following agencies. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them.
- **All US Residents:** Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580, <a href="https://consumer.ftc.gov">https://consumer.ftc.gov</a>, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), TTY: 1-866-653-4261.