

Asheville Eye Associates, PLLC
c/o Cyberscout
<Return Address>
<City> <State> <Zip>

<FirstName> <LastName>
<Address1>
<Address2>
<City><State><Zip>

June 13, 2025

Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear <<first name>> <<last name>>>,

We are writing to tell you about a data security incident that may have exposed some of your personal information. We take the privacy of your information very seriously. This letter contains information about the incident and how to protect your personal information going forward.

What happened?

On or around November 18, 2024, Asheville Eye Associates (AEA) detected and stopped a network security incident. An unauthorized party gained access to our network and acquired certain files from our systems. We quickly engaged third-party specialists to assist us with securing the network environment and investigating the incident. We first provided notice of this incident to affected individuals on January 31, 2025. Since that time, AEA has completed a comprehensive review and investigation of the potentially affected records and systems. Through that subsequent investigation, which concluded on April 14, 2025, we determined that some of your personal information was contained in the affected records.

What information was involved?

The impacted information varies by individual, and may have included: name, address, Social Security Number, medical treatment information, and health insurance information. **As of this writing, we have not received any reports of identity theft related to this incident.**

What we are doing:

Upon becoming aware of the incident, we promptly began taking steps to secure our systems. We also worked with third-party forensic specialists to investigate the incident and reported the incident to law enforcement. In addition, we have implemented measures to further enhance the security of our network environment.

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 the event that you become a victim of fraud. These services will

be provided by Cyberscout, a TransUnion company specializing in fraud assistance and remediation services.

To enroll in Credit Monitoring services at no charge, please log on to **[URL]** and follow the instructions provided. When prompted please provide the following unique code to receive services: **<<unique code>>.**

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:

Please review the enclosed “Additional Resources” section included with this letter. This section describes additional steps you can take to help protect yourself, including recommendations by the Federal Trade Commission regarding identity theft protection and details on how to place a fraud alert or a security freeze on your credit file. Again, at this time, there is no evidence that your information has been misused.

For more information:

Please call us at 1-828-210-2698 with any additional questions you may have.

AEA values the privacy and importance of your personal data, and we apologize for any inconvenience or concern that this incident has caused.

Sincerely,

Asheville Eye Associates

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Contact information for the three nationwide credit reporting agencies:

Equifax, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, www.equifax.com, 1-800-685-1111

Experian, PO Box 2104, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742

TransUnion, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-800-888-4213

Free Credit Report. It is recommended that you remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity, especially activity that may indicate fraud and identity theft. You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies.

To order your annual free credit report please visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call toll free at **1-877-322-8228**.

You can also order your annual free credit report by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available from the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's ("FTC") website at www.consumer.ftc.gov) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

For Colorado, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and Vermont residents: You may obtain one or more (depending on the state) additional copies of your credit report, free of charge. You must contact each of the credit reporting agencies directly to obtain such additional report(s).

Fraud Alerts. There are two types of fraud alerts you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud—an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for at least one year. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft and you have the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by contacting any of the three national credit reporting agencies.

Security Freeze. You have the ability to place a security freeze, also known as a credit freeze, on your credit report free of charge. A security freeze is intended to prevent credit, loans and services from being approved in your name without your consent. To place a security freeze on your credit report, you may use an online process, an automated telephone line, or submit a written request to any of the three credit reporting agencies listed above. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that, if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past 5 years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, and display your name, current mailing address, and the date of issue.

Federal Trade Commission and State Attorneys General Offices. If you believe you are the victim of identity theft or have reason to believe your personal information has been misused, you should immediately contact the Federal Trade Commission and/or the Attorney General's office in your home state. You may also contact these agencies for information on how to prevent or minimize the risks of identity theft.

You may contact the **Federal Trade Commission**, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338).

For North Carolina residents: You may contact the North Carolina Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, www.ncdoj.gov, 1-877-566-7226.

For Maryland residents: You may contact the Maryland Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, <https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>, 1-888-743-0023.

For New York residents: The Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341, <https://ag.ny.gov/>, 1-800-771-7755.

For Connecticut residents: You may contact the Connecticut Office of the Attorney General, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106, www.ct.gov/ag, 1-860-808-5318.

For Massachusetts residents: You may contact the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General, 1 Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02108, www.mass.gov/ago/contact-us.html, 1-617-727-8400.

For New Mexico residents: You have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act (“FCRA”), such as the right to be told if information in your credit file has been used against you, the right to know what is in your credit file, the right to ask for your credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the FCRA, the consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to your file is limited; you must give your consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; you may limit “prescreened” offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report; and you may seek damages from violators. You may have additional rights under the FCRA not summarized here. Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have specific additional rights pursuant to the FCRA. We encourage you to review your rights under the FCRA at www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504_cfpb_summary_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20580.

For District of Columbia residents: You may contact the District of Columbia Attorney General, 400 6th Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, oag.dc.gov, 1-202-727-3400.

For Rhode Island residents: the Rhode Island Attorney General can be reached at 150 South Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, www.riag.ri.gov, 1-401-274-4400.

Reporting of identity theft and obtaining a police report.

For Iowa residents: You are advised to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Iowa Attorney General.

For Massachusetts residents: You have the right to obtain a police report if you are a victim of identity theft.

For Oregon residents: You are advised to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, the Federal Trade Commission, and the Oregon Attorney General.

For Rhode Island residents: You have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident.