

<<First Name>> << Last Name>> <<Address1>> <<Address2>> <<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip Code>>



January 28, 2025

Subject: Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear <<First Name>> << Last Name>>:

We are writing to notify you about a cybersecurity incident at Albany Gastroenterology Consultants ("Albany Gastro") that affected your personal information. Albany Gastro is a gastroenterology practice located in Albany, New York. Please read this letter carefully as it contains details about the incident and resources you can utilize to protect your information, including instructions for enrolling in complimentary credit monitoring and identity theft protection services.

Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. If you are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of it.

Massachusetts law also allows consumers to place a security freeze on their credit reports. A security freeze prohibits a consumer 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. To place a security freeze on your credit report, you must send a written request to **each** of the three major consumer reporting agencies:

Equifax Security Freeze	Experian Security Freeze	TransUnion Security Freeze
P.O. Box 105788	P.O. Box 9554	P.O. Box 2000
Atlanta, GA 30348	Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19016
1-800-349-9960	1-888-397-3742	1-888-909-8872
www.equifax.com	www.experian.com/freeze/center.html	www.transunion.com/credit-freeze

To request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

- 1. Full name and any suffixes;
- 2. Social Security Number;
- 3. Date of birth;
- 4. If you have moved in the past five years, provide the addresses where you have lived over the prior five years;
- 5. Proof of current address such as a current utility bill or telephone bill;
- 6. A legible photocopy of a government issued identification card (state driver's license or ID card, military identification, etc.);
- 7. 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 consumer reporting agencies have three (3) business days after receiving your request to place a security freeze on your credit report. 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.

To lift the security freeze to allow a specific entity or individual access to your credit report, you must call or send a request to the consumer reporting agencies and include proper identification (name, address, and Social Security Number) and the PIN 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 or the specific period of time you want the credit report available. The consumer reporting agencies have three (3) business days 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 send a request to each of the three consumer reporting agencies and include proper identification (name, address, and Social Security Number) and the PIN or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze. The consumer reporting agencies have three (3) business days after receiving your request to remove the security freeze. No fee is required to be paid to any of the consumer reporting agencies to place, lift or remove a security freeze.

To determine whether any unauthorized credit was obtained with your information, you may obtain a copy of your credit report at <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u> or 1-877-322-8228. You may also request information on how to place a fraud alert by contacting any of the above consumer reporting agencies. A fraud alert is intended to alert you if someone attempts to obtain credit in your name without your consent. It is recommended that you remain vigilant for any incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and your credit report for unauthorized activity. You may also contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to learn more about how to prevent identity theft:

FTC, Consumer Response Center 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW Washington D.C. 20590 www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft 877-IDTHEFT (438-4338)

We are also offering you the opportunity to enroll in complimentary credit monitoring and identity theft protection services through IDX – a data breach and recovery services expert. These services include: 24 months of credit<sup>1</sup> and CyberScan monitoring, a 1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed identity theft recovery services. To enroll, please call 1-833-903-3648 or visit <u>https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</u> and provide the enrollment code at the top of this page. Please note that the deadline to enroll is April 28, 2025.

We encourage you to enroll in the complimentary credit protection services we are offering. With this protection, IDX can help you resolve issues if your identity is compromised. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact 1-833-903-3648, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time, excluding major U.S. holidays. IDX representatives are fully versed on this incident and can help answer questions you may have regarding the protection of your information.

Sincerely,

## Albany Gastroenterology Consultants

1375 Washington Ave, Ste 101 Albany, New York 12206

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> To receive credit monitoring services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file.