

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





March 21, 2025

Subject: Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear

Clarke Nicolini & Associates, Ltd. ("Clarke Nicolini") is writing to inform you of a recent data security incident that may have involved your personal information. Clarke Nicolini takes the privacy and security of all information within its possession very seriously. We are writing to notify you about the incident, provide you with information about steps you can take to help protect your information, and offer you the opportunity to enroll in complimentary identity protection services that Clarke Nicolini is making available to you.

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 contact 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

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

- 1. Your full name and any suffixes;
- 2. Social Security number;
- 3. Date of birth;
- 4. If you have moved in the past five (5) years, provide the addresses where you have lived over the prior five (5) 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 (e.g. state driver's license or ID card, military identification, etc.); and

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 then 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 in order to grant a specific entity or individual access to your credit report, you must call or send a written request to the consumer reporting agencies by mail 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 individuals, or for the specified period of time.

To remove the security freeze, you must send a written request to each of the three (3) consumer reporting agencies by mail 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. You cannot be charged a fee by the consumer reporting agencies to place, lift, or remove a security freeze.

In order to determine whether any unauthorized credit was obtained with your information, you may obtain a copy of your credit report at www.annualcreditreport.com or by calling (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)

In addition, we are offering identity theft protection services through IDX, A ZeroFox Company, a data breach and recovery services expert. IDX identity protection services include 24 months of credit and CyberScan monitoring, a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed id theft recovery services. With this protection, IDX will help you resolve issues if your information is compromised.

**For More Information:** Further information about protecting your private information appears on the following pages. You can also contact the dedicated call center at 1-800-939-4170 for more information, available 9 AM to 9 PM Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays.

We take your trust in us and this matter very seriously. Please accept our sincere apologies for any worry or inconvenience that this may cause you.

Sincerely,

Clarke Nicolini & Associates, Ltd. 1240 W Chester Pike, West Chester, PA 19382

# ADDITIONAL STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO FURTHER PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

**Review Your Account Statements and Notify Law Enforcement of Suspicious Activity:** As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements and credit reports closely. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained. You also should promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidence of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, your state attorney general, and/or the Federal Trade Commission (the "FTC").

**Personal Information of a Minor:** You can request that each of the three national consumer reporting agencies perform a manual search for a minor's Social Security number to determine if there is an associated credit report. Copies of identifying information for the minor and parent/guardian may be required, including birth or adoption certificate, Social Security card, and government issued identification card. If a credit report exists, you should request a copy of the report and immediately report any fraudulent accounts to the consumer reporting agency. You can also report any misuse of a minor's information to the FTC at <a href="https://www.identitytheft.gov/">https://www.identitytheft.gov/</a>. For more information about Child Identity Theft and instructions for requesting a manual Social Security number search, visit <a href="https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0040-child-identity-theft">www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0040-child-identity-theft</a>. Contact information for the three national credit reporting agencies is below.

**Copy of Credit Report:** You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies once every 12 months by visiting <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u>, calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or by completing an Annual Credit Report Request Form and mailing it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348. You also can contact one of the following three national credit reporting agencies:

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
P.O. Box 105851	P.O. Box 9532	P.O. Box 1000
Atlanta, GA 30348	Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19016
1-800-525-6285	1-888-397-3742	1-800-916-8800
www.equifax.com	www.experian.com	www.transunion.com

**Fraud Alert:** You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. An initial fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit file for at least one year. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three credit reporting agencies identified above. Additional information is available at <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u>.

**Security Freeze:** You have the right to put a security freeze on your credit file at no cost. This will prevent new credit from being opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate the freeze. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential creditors from accessing your credit report without your consent. As a result, using a security freeze may interfere with or delay your ability to obtain credit. You must separately place a security freeze on your credit file with each credit reporting agency. In order to place a security freeze, you may be required to provide the consumer reporting agency with information that identifies you including your full name, Social Security number, date of birth, current and previous addresses, a copy of your state-issued identification card, and a recent utility bill, bank statement or insurance statement.

Additional Free Resources: You can obtain information from the consumer reporting agencies, the FTC, or from your respective state Attorney General about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft. You may report suspected identity theft to local law enforcement, including to the FTC or to the Attorney General in your state.

### **Federal Trade Commission**

600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, DC 20580 consumer.ftc.gov 877-438-4338

### California Attorney General 1300 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814 www.oag.ca.gov/privacy

800-952-5225

# Iowa Attorney General

1305 E. Walnut Street Des Moines, Iowa 50319 www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov 888-777-4590

#### Maryland Attorney General 200 St. Paul Place

Baltimore, MD 21202 www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/CPD 888-743-0023

#### New York Attorney General The Capitol Albany, NY 12224 800-771-7755

ag.ny.gov

# NY Bureau of Internet and Technology

28 Liberty Street New York, NY 10005 www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection/ 212.416.8433

#### Oregon Attorney General 1162 Court St., NE Solem, OR 97301

Salem, OR 97301 www.doj.state.or.us/consumer-protection 877-877-9392

### **Rhode Island Attorney General**

150 South Main Street Providence, RI 02903 www.riag.ri.gov 401-274-4400

Washington D.C. Attorney General 400 S 6th Street, NW Washington, DC 20001 oag.dc.gov/consumer-protection 202-442-9828 Kentucky Attorney General 700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 118 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 www.ag.ky.gov 502-696-5300 NC Attorney General 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699 ncdoj.gov/protectingconsumers/ 877-566-7226

You also have certain rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA): These rights include to know what is in your file; to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information; to have consumer reporting agencies correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; as well as other rights. For more information about the FCRA, and your rights pursuant to the FCRA, please visit www.consumer.ftc.gov/sites/default/files/articles/pdf/pdf-0096-fair-credit-reporting-act.pdf.