Mercer County Joint Township Community Hospital Return to IDX P.O. Box 989728 West Sacramento, CA 95798-9728

Via First-Class Mail

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



February 21, 2025

Notice of Data <</h>

Dear <</Full Name>>:

Mercer County Joint Township Community Hospital experienced a data incident between April 2, 2024, and April 3, 2024, which may have affected your personal information. Based on our current review, we have no indication that your personal information has been or will be used inappropriately, but we wanted to make you aware of the incident, the measures we have taken in response, and to provide details on the steps you can take to help protect your information. We take the protection and proper use of your information seriously and are working to prevent a similar incident from occurring again in the future.

What Information Was Involved

We have taken a conservative approach and are providing notification to all individuals whose personally identifiable information and/or protected health information were maintained within our systems at the time of the incident. The elements of your personal information that may have been contained therein included, and potentially were not limited to, your: <<Variable Text 1>>. Please note that we have no evidence at this time that any of your personal information has been or will be misused as a result of the incident.

What We Are Doing

Upon discovering the incident, we promptly launched an investigation, engaged a national cybersecurity firm to assist in assessing the scope of the incident and notified law enforcement. As part of our ongoing commitment to the security of information, we are evaluating opportunities to further secure our systems to prevent a similar event from occurring again in the future.

Additionally, out of an abundance of caution, we have arranged for you to activate, at no cost to you, identity theft protection services through IDX. IDX identity protection services include: <<Service Length>> 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 identity is compromised.

What You Can Do

To enroll in the complimentary services we are offering you, please scan the QR image above, alternatively, you can call 1-877-723-0509 or go to <u>https://response.idx.us/mercer</u>. Your individual Enrollment Code is provided at the top of this letter. The deadline to enroll is May 21, 2025.

Please note that to activate monitoring services, you will need an internet connection and e-mail account. Additionally, you may be required to provide your name, date of birth, and Social Security number to confirm your identity. Due to privacy laws, we cannot register you directly. Please note that the certain services might not be available for individuals who do not have a credit file with the credit bureaus or an address in the United States (or its territories) and a valid Social Security number. Activating this service will not affect your credit score.

At this time, we are not aware of anyone experiencing fraud as a result of this incident. As data incidents are increasingly common, we encourage you to always remain vigilant, monitor your accounts, and immediately report any suspicious activity or suspected misuse of your personal information. Additionally, we recommend that you review the following pages, which contain important additional information about steps you can take to safeguard your personal information, such as the implementation of fraud alerts and security freezes.

For More Information

Please know that the protection of your personal information is a top priority, and we understand the inconvenience and concern this incident may cause. Representatives can be reached at 1-877-723-0509 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, and are available for ninety (90) days from the date of this letter to assist you with questions regarding this incident.

Sincerely,

Mercer County Joint Township Community Hospital 800 W Main St, Coldwater, OH 45828

Additional Important Information

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 its 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, 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.

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, 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.

To place a security freeze on your credit report, you must make a direct request by telephone, secure electronic means (website), or written request to each of the three major consumer reporting agencies: Equifax; Experian; and TransUnion at the addresses and/or numbers below:

Equifax Security Freeze	Experian Security Freeze	TransUnion Security
P.O. Box 105788	P.O. Box 9554	Freeze
Atlanta, GA 30348	Allen, TX 75013	P.O. Box 160
equifax.com/personal/credit-report-	experian.com/freeze/center.html	Woodlyn, PA 19094
services/	(888) 397-3742	transunion.com/credit-freeze
(800) 349-9960		(888) 909-8872

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

- 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, 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 (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 credit reporting agencies have one (1) business day after receiving a telephone or secure electronic request, or three (3) business days after receiving your written 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 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.

Implementing an Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) with the IRS:

To help protect against a fraudulent tax return being filed under your name, we recommend Implementing an Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) with the IRS. An IP PIN is a six-digit number that prevents someone else from filing a tax return using your Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number. The IP PIN is known only to you and the IRS. It helps the IRS verify your identity when you file your electronic or paper tax return. Even though you may not have a filing requirement, an IP PIN still protects your account.

If you don't already have an IP PIN, you may get an IP PIN as a proactive step to protect yourself from tax-related identity theft. If you want to request an IP PIN, please note: you must pass an identity verification process; and Spouses and dependents are eligible for an IP PIN if they can pass the identity verification process. The fastest way to receive an IP PIN is by using the online Get an IP PIN tool found at: https://www.irs.gov/identity-theft-fraud-scams/get-an-identity-protection-pin. If you wish to get an IP PIN and you don't already have an account on IRS.gov, you must register to validate your identity.

Some items to consider when obtaining an IP PIN with the IRS:

An IP PIN is valid for one calendar year.

A new IP PIN is generated each year for your account.

Logging back into the Get an IP PIN tool, will display your current IP PIN.

An IP PIN must be used when filing any federal tax returns during the year including prior year returns.