



WILLIAM MCNAMARA
COMPTROLLER

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER

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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02108
(617) 727-5000
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January 10, 2025

[Name of employee]

[address line 1]

[address line 2]

Dear [employee]:

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 93H, § 3(b), I am writing to notify you that in early October 2024, your personal information was acquired or used by an unauthorized person or used for an unauthorized purpose.

The unauthorized access occurred as the result of a credential harvesting campaign involving the Commonwealth's HR/CMS Employee Self-Service Time and Attendance (SSTA) system. A credential harvesting campaign is a cyberattack technique that involves stealing personal or financial data from users. In this case, a fake website was created that resembled the SSTA portal. Between the dates of October 1, 2024 to October 8, 2024, approximately 100 employees accessed this fake website and entered their credentials, believing it to be the correct website. This allowed for unauthorized access to their user account and direct deposit information. The Office of the Comptroller (CTR) discovered the campaign based on users reporting they received direct deposit change notifications, when they had not made any changes to their direct deposit.

There is no evidence indicating any compromise of the full system. These accounts were compromised as the result of user error, and there was no wider breach of security in the SSTA system or any other Commonwealth of Massachusetts system.

Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed regarding this incident. Given the nature of the possible dissemination of your SSTA account credentials, no police report has been filed by CTR. If you are the victim of identity theft, you have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of it.

You also have the right to request a security freeze on your consumer reports by sending a request in writing to all credit reporting agencies. A security freeze shall prohibit, with certain specific exceptions, the credit reporting agency from releasing the consumer's credit report or any information from it without the express authorization of the consumer. The freeze goes into effect three business days from receipt of the consumer's letter by the credit reporting agency.

For more information regarding how to request a security freeze, please visit:
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/freeze-your-credit>.

If you have questions about this matter, please contact me at (617) 631-3199 or by email Amy.Nable@mass.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "A. Nable", with a stylized, flowing script.

Amy L. Nable
General Counsel / Assistant Comptroller
Office of the Comptroller