

# Ford & Paulekas, LLP

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April 16, 2026

## Notice of Data Incident

Dear Sample A. Sample:

Ford & Paulekas, LLP (“FP”, “we”, or “us”) is writing to inform you about a recent cybersecurity incident that may have impacted some of your personal information. The security of your personal information is very important to us, and we take the trust you place in us very seriously. We wanted to advise you about the incident and to offer resources you may find helpful.

**What Happened?** In November 2025, we detected unauthorized activity in our information technology (IT) systems. We immediately took protective actions to stop the unauthorized access, notified U.S. federal law enforcement, and launched an investigation with the assistance of leading cybersecurity experts. The investigation indicated that some of your personal information may have been accessed by an unauthorized party. Despite this possibility, we have no reason to believe your information has been or will be misused or disseminated.

**What Personal Information May Be Involved?** The affected personal information may have included [Extra1].

**What We Are Doing.** Upon detecting the unauthorized activity, we took immediate protective actions to contain it and retained industry-leading cybersecurity experts to investigate the incident and ensured that the unauthorized access ceased and that the information was returned. We have used the lessons learned from these events to improve our systems’ security posture. We will continue to implement and improve robust security protocols, continuous system monitoring, and staff training needed to defend against sophisticated cybersecurity threats.

**What You Can Do.** Although we have no indication of your information’s misuse, we have secured the services of Experian IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup> to provide complimentary credit monitoring and identity restoration for 24 months at no charge to you. To enroll in the credit monitoring services at no charge, please visit <https://www.experianidworks.com/1Bcredit> and enter the following code, ABCDEFGHI, to activate your membership. Please note the deadline to enroll is June 30, 2026.

**For More Information.** We sincerely regret any inconvenience this incident may cause. If you have questions regarding this incident or the services available to you, please call 833-918-6121 (excluding major U.S. Holidays): Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM Eastern Time. Please be prepared to provide your engagement number [Engagement Number].

Sincerely,

Ford & Paulekas, LLP

## **STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION**

**Order Your Free Credit Report.** 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 free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), call toll-free at 877-322-8228, or complete the Annual Credit Report Request Form on the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) website at [www.consumer.ftc.gov](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov) and mail it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281. The three nationwide consumer reporting agencies provide free annual credit reports only through the website, toll-free number or request form.

### **Report Incidents.**

We recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing financial account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity, especially activity that may indicate fraud and identity theft. If you detect unauthorized transactions in a financial account, promptly notify the relevant financial institution or payment card company. If you suspect an incident of identity theft or fraud, promptly report the incident to law enforcement, the FTC and your state Attorney General. You can contact the FTC to learn more about how to protect yourself from becoming an identity theft victim and how to repair identity theft: Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580 877-IDTHEFT (438-4338) or [www.ftc.gov/idtheft/](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft/). If you believe your identity has been stolen, the FTC recommends you take these steps: (1) close the accounts that you confirm or believe have been tampered with or opened fraudulently (for streamlined checklists and sample letters to help guide you through the recovery process, please visit <https://www.identitytheft.gov/>); and (2) file a local police report, obtain a copy of the police report, and submit it to your creditors and others that may require proof of the identity theft crime.

**Consider Placing a Fraud Alert on Your Credit File.** To protect yourself from possible identity theft, consider placing a fraud alert on your credit file. A fraud alert stays on your credit file for one year and is a free service that helps protect against the possibility of an identity thief opening credit accounts in your name. When a merchant checks the credit history of someone applying for credit, the merchant gets a notice that the applicant may be the victim of identity theft or desires additional steps to be taken before additional credit or a new account is approved. The alert notifies the merchant to take steps to verify the identity of the applicant. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by calling any one of the toll-free numbers provided below. You will reach an automated telephone system that allows you to flag your file with a fraud alert at all three consumer reporting agencies. For more information on fraud alerts, you also may contact the FTC as described above.

**Consider Placing a Security Freeze on Your Credit File.** You may place a "security freeze" (also known as a "credit freeze") on your credit file. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential creditors from accessing your credit file at the consumer reporting agencies without your consent. Unlike a fraud alert, you must place a security freeze on your credit file with each consumer reporting agency individually. There is no charge to place or remove a security freeze. For more information on security freezes, you may contact the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies or the FTC as described above. As the instructions for establishing a security freeze differ from state to state, please contact the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies to learn more.

The consumer reporting agencies may require you to provide certain personal information and proper identification prior to honoring your request to place a security freeze on your account. For example, you may be asked to provide: (1) Your full name with middle initial and generation (such as Jr., Sr., II, III); (2) your Social Security number; (3) your date of birth; (4) addresses where you have lived over the past five years; (5) a legible copy of a government-issued identification card (such as a state driver's license or military ID card); and, (6) proof of your current residential address (e.g., current utility bill or account statement). Below is contact information for the three major credit bureaus:

Equifax, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com), 800-525-6285  
Experian, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com), 888-397-3742  
TransUnion, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com), 800-680-7289

## **For Additional Information.**

**Arizona Residents:** Visit the Arizona Department of Revenue for steps to avoid identity theft- <https://azdor.gov/individuals/identity-theft>. Contact the Arizona Department of Revenue Identity Theft Call Center by calling 602-716-6300 or out of state 844-817-9691 if you think you may be a victim of identity theft.

**California Residents:** Visit the California Office of Privacy Protection ([www.oag.ca.gov/privacy](http://www.oag.ca.gov/privacy)) for additional information on protection against identity theft.

**Colorado Residents:** Visit the Colorado Department of Revenue for steps to avoid identity theft- <https://tax.colorado.gov/identity-theft>. Contact the Colorado Bureau of Investigation's Theft & Fraud Hotline at 855-443-3489 if you think you may be a victim of identity theft.

**Connecticut Residents:** Visit the Connecticut Department of Banking for steps to avoid identity theft- <https://portal.ct.gov/DOB/Consumer/Consumer-Education/Identity-Theft>.

**Florida Residents:** Contact the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for steps to avoid identity theft: 850-410-7000, P.O. Box 1489, Tallahassee, FL 32302, <https://www.fdle.state.fl.us/compromised-identity-services>.

**Georgia Residents:** Visit the Georgia Bureau of Investigation Investigative Division for steps to avoid identity theft: <https://investigative-gbi.georgia.gov/investigative-offices-and-services/other-services/identity-theft>.

**Illinois Residents:** Visit the Illinois Department of Revenue for steps to avoid identity theft: <https://tax.illinois.gov/programs/fraud-prevention-and-reporting/identity-theft.html>. Report any suspected identity theft to the department at 800-732-8866.

**Kansas Residents:** Visit the Attorney General of Kansas for steps to avoid identity theft: <https://www.ag.ks.gov/file-a-complaint/id-theft>.

**Louisiana Residents:** Visit the Louisiana Department of Revenue for steps to avoid identity theft: <https://revenue.louisiana.gov/tax-fraud/general-resources/identity-theft/>.

**Massachusetts Residents:** Visit Mass.gov for steps to avoid identity theft: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/identity-theft>. Contact the Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation at 617- 973-8787 or 1 Federal Street, Suite 0720, Boston, MA 02110-2012 if you suspect identity theft.

**Maryland Residents:** Contact the Maryland Attorney General's Office: 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 410-576-6300 or 888-743-0023; and <https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>.

**Michigan Residents:** Contact the Michigan Department of Attorney General: 525 W. Ottawa St. Lansing, MI 48906, 517-335-7622, <https://www.michigan.gov/ag/initiatives/michigan-identity-theft-support>.

**New Jersey Residents:** Contact the New Jersey Department of Banking and Insurance, 609-292-7272, 20 W State St, Trenton, NJ 08625, [https://www.nj.gov/dobi/division\\_consumers/finance/identitytheft.htm](https://www.nj.gov/dobi/division_consumers/finance/identitytheft.htm).

**New York Residents:** You can obtain information from the State Office of the Attorney General about how to protect yourself from identity theft and tips on how to protect your privacy online. You can contact the New York State Attorney General at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 800-771-7755 or 800-788-9898; <https://ag.ny.gov/>. You also may contact the Bureau of Internet and Technology (BIT), 28 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10005; 212-416-8433; <https://ag.ny.gov/about/about-office/economic-justice-division#internet-technology>.

**Pennsylvania Residents:** Contact the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Bureau of Fraud Detection and Analysis, 717-772-9297, P.O. Box 280607, Harrisburg, PA, <https://www.pa.gov/services/revenue/report-identity-theft>.

**South Carolina Residents:** Visit the South Carolina Department of Consumer Affairs for ways to prevent identity theft: <https://consumer.sc.gov/identity-theft-unit/id-theft>. If you suspect identity theft, report it to 293 Greystone Boulevard, Ste. 400, Columbia, SC 29210, or 803-734-4200.

**Texas Residents:** Visit the Attorney General of Texas for ways to prevent identity theft: <https://www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/consumer-protection/identity-theft>.

**Utah Residents:** Visit the Utah Division of Consumer Protection for ways to prevent identity theft: <https://commerce.utah.gov/dcp/education/identity-theft/>.

**Vermont Residents:** Visit the Vermont Attorney General for ways to prevent identity theft: <https://ago.vermont.gov/cap/scam-prevention-through-awareness-and-education/identity-theft>.