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January 21, 2019



Dear

At Gaines CPAs, PLLC, we take the issue of privacy seriously and, as part of that commitment, we are sending you this letter to notify you that we recently learned that an unauthorized acquisition of your personal information may have occurred between the dates of October 23 and November 19, 2018. Please read this letter carefully.

We recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring credit reports. Under federal law, you also are entitled every 12 months to one free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting companies listed below. To obtain a free annual credit report, go to www.annualcreditreport.com or call 1-877-322-8228. You may wish to stagger your requests so that you receive a free report by one of the three credit bureaus every four months. If you discover any incorrect information on your report, you should report it immediately to the credit reporting agency.

Massachusetts law also requires us to inform you of your right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. If you are a 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 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.

If you have been a victim of identity theft, and you provide the credit reporting agency with a valid police report, it cannot charge you to place, lift or remove a security freeze. In all other cases, a credit reporting agency may charge you up to \$5.00 each to place, temporarily lift, or permanently remove a security freeze.

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 (www.equifax.com); Experian (www.experian.com); and TransUnion (www.transunion.com) by regular, certified, or overnight mail at the addresses below:

Equifax Security Freeze
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348

Experian Security Freeze
P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013

TransUnion (FVAD)
P.O. Box 6790
Fullerton, CA 92834

In order to request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information: (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; (5) Proof of current address, such as a current utility or telephone bill, (6) a legible photocopy of a government issued identification, (7) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles; and (8) if you are not a victim of identity theft, include payment by check, money order, or credit card (Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover only). Do not send cash through the mail.

The credit 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 in order to allow a specific entity or individual access to your credit report, you must call or send a written request to the credit reporting agencies by mail and include proper identification (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 or the specific period of time you want the credit report available. The credit 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 written request to each of the three credit bureaus by mail and include 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 three (3) business days after receiving your request to remove the security freeze.

In addition, you can place a fraud alert your credit file by contacting one or more of the three national credit reporting agencies listed above. A fraud alert tells lenders to contact you before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts.

As an additional precautionary measure to help protect your identity, we are offering a complimentary one-year membership in Experian IdentityWorksSM Premium. This product provides you with superior identity detection and resolution of identity theft. To activate your membership and start monitoring your personal information, please follow the steps below:

- **Enroll by: April 30, 2019 (Your code will not work after this date.)**
- **Visit this website to enroll: <https://www.experianidworks.com/3bplus>**
- **Provide your activation code: [REDACTED]**

If you have other questions about the product, need assistance with identity restoration, or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at (877) 890-9332 by the enrollment end date noted above. Be prepared to provide engagement number [REDACTED] as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services

by Experian®.

For additional information on steps you may take to help protect your information from potential misuse, you may contact the Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580, <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov>, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338) or the Massachusetts Office of Consumer Affairs & Business Regulation at www.mass.gov/ocabr or (888) 283-3757.

We very sorry for any concern or inconvenience this incident has caused or may cause you, and we encourage you to take advantage of the Experian® services being offered. If you have any other questions or concerns that you would like to discuss, please call us at (615) 279-0600.

Sincerely,

Pam Gaines, CPA



ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 12-MONTH EXPERIAN® IDENTITYWORKSSM MEMBERSHIP

Please refer to the enclosed letter for your personal activation code, instructions on how to enroll, and the deadline for enrollment.

A credit card is not required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks.

You can contact Experian immediately regarding any fraud issues, and have access to the following features once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks:

- **Experian credit report at signup:** See what information is associated with your credit file. Daily credit reports are available for online members only.¹
- **Credit Monitoring:** Actively monitors Experian, Equifax, and Transunion files for indicators of fraud.
- **Internet Surveillance:** Technology searches the web, chat rooms, and bulletin boards 24/7 to identify trading or selling of your personal information on the Dark Web.
- **Identity Restoration:** Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARETM:** You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **Up to \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance²:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

If you believe there was fraudulent use of your information and would like to discuss how you may be able to resolve those issues, please contact an Experian agent at (877) 890-9332. If, after discussing your situation with an agent, it is determined that Identity Restoration support is needed, then an Experian Identity Restoration agent is available to work with you to investigate and resolve each incident of fraud that occurred (including, as appropriate, helping you with contacting credit grantors to dispute charges and close accounts; assisting you in placing a freeze on your credit file with the three major credit bureaus; and assisting you with contacting government agencies to help restore your identity to its proper condition).

Please note that this Identity Restoration support is available to you for one year from the date of this letter and does not require any action on your part at this time. The Terms and Conditions for this offer are located at www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration. You will also find self-help tips and information about identity protection at this site.

¹ Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling

² Identity theft insurance is underwritten by insurance company subsidiaries or affiliates of American International Group, Inc. (AIG). The description herein is a summary and intended for informational purposes only and does not include all terms, conditions and exclusions of the policies described. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions.