

16888

May 4, 2020

Sample
123 Main St
City, State Zip

RE: Important Security Notification. Please read this entire letter.

Dear Sir or Madam:

We are writing to inform you of a recent security incident that occurred in March of 2020. Haynie & Company Certified Public Accountants Inc. ("Haynie & Company") became aware of the incident on or around April 2, 2020. Through thorough investigation, Haynie & Company recently confirmed the potential scope of the incident.

We take this incident very seriously and are providing you with information, as well as access to resources, so that you can better protect against the possibility of misuse of your personal information. We take great care in the security of our technology systems, and regret that this incident has occurred.

What We are Doing:

Haynie & Company has taken every step necessary to address the incident, and is committed to fully protecting all of the information that you have entrusted to us. Upon learning of this incident, we immediately took actionable steps to secure the affected account, which includes implementing additional security measures. We likewise retained a forensic firm to conduct a thorough investigation and continue to work closely with the IRS and State Tax Agencies as well as other enforcement authorities to ensure the incident is properly addressed.

Credit Monitoring:

As a safeguard, we have arranged for you to enroll, at no cost to you, in an online, three-bureau credit monitoring service (*IdentityWorksSM*) for eighteen (18) months provided by Experian.

What You Can Do:

We recommend that you remain vigilant in regularly reviewing and monitoring all of your account statements and credit history to guard against any unauthorized transactions or activity. If you discover any suspicious or unusual activity on your accounts, please contact your financial institution. We have provided additional information below, which contains more information about steps you can take to protect yourself against fraud and identity theft.

For More Information:

Should you have questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact us at Kristen Goen at 512-671-7711.

We value your business and sincerely apologize for this incident and regret any inconvenience it may cause you.

Sincerely,

Robert Jensen
Partner, Executive Committee

ADDITIONAL ACTIONS TO HELP REDUCE YOUR CHANCES OF IDENTITY THEFT

Experian's® IdentityWorksSM provides you with the following key features:

- **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 file for indicators of fraud.
- **Identity Restoration:** Identity Restoration agents 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.

How to Enroll:

- **Ensure that you enroll by:** August 31, 2020 (Your code will not work after this date)
- Visit the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: <https://www.experianidworks.com/credit>
- Provide your **activation code:** [code]

If you have 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 **August 31, 2020**. Be prepared to provide engagement number **DB19836** as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services by Experian. Due to privacy laws, we cannot register you directly. Please note that credit monitoring services might not be available for individuals who do not have a valid Social Security number. Enrolling in this service will not affect your credit score. 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.

➤ **PLACE A 90-DAY FRAUD ALERT ON YOUR CREDIT FILE**

An **initial 90-day security alert** indicates to anyone requesting your credit file that you suspect you are a victim of fraud. When you or someone else attempts to open a credit account in your name, increase the credit limit on an existing account, or obtain a new card on an existing account, the lender should take steps to verify that you have authorized the request. If the creditor cannot verify this, the request should not be satisfied. You may contact one of the credit reporting companies below for assistance.

Equifax, Consumer Fraud Division
P.O. Box 105069, Atlanta, GA 30348 Phone: 1.800.525.6285
www.equifax.com

Experian, National Consumer Assistance
P.O. Box 1017, Allen, TX 75013 Phone: 1.888.397.3742
www.experian.com

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

² The Identity Theft Insurance is underwritten and administered by American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida, an Assurant company. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions.

TransUnion Fraud Victim Assistance Department
P.O. Box 6790, Fullerton, CA 92834
Phone: 1.800.680.7289
www.transunion.com

➤ **PLACE A SECURITY FREEZE ON YOUR CREDIT FILE**

If you are very concerned about becoming a victim of fraud or identity theft, a security freeze might be right for you. Placing a freeze on your credit report will prevent lenders and others from accessing your credit report in connection with any new credit application, which will prevent them from extending credit. A security freeze generally does not apply to circumstances in which you have an existing account relationship and a copy of your report is requested by your existing creditor or its agents or affiliates for certain types of account review, collection, fraud control or similar activities. With a security freeze in place, you will be required to take special steps when you wish to apply for any type of credit. This process is also completed through each of the credit reporting agencies. You should be aware that using a security freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a security freeze on your credit report.

➤ **ORDER YOUR FREE ANNUAL CREDIT REPORTS**

Visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call 1-877-322-8228. Once you receive your credit reports, review them for discrepancies. Identify any accounts you did not open or inquiries from creditors that you did not authorize. Verify all information is correct. If you have questions or notice incorrect information, contact the credit reporting company.

➤ **MANAGE YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION**

Take steps such as: carrying only essential documents with you; being aware of whom you are sharing your personal information with; and shredding receipts, statements, and other sensitive information. Remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring credit reports.

➤ **USE TOOLS FROM CREDIT PROVIDERS**

Carefully review your credit reports and bank, credit card and other account statements. Be proactive and create alerts on credit cards and bank accounts to notify you of activity. If you discover unauthorized or suspicious activity on your credit report or by any other means, file an identity theft report with your local police and contact a credit reporting company.

➤ **BE AWARE OF SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY INVOLVING YOUR HEALTH INSURANCE**

Contact your healthcare provider if bills do not arrive when expected, and review your Explanation of Benefit forms to check for irregularities or suspicious activity. You can also contact your health insurance company to notify them of possible medical identity theft or ask for a new account number.

➤ **OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION ABOUT IDENTITY THEFT AND WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF**

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps you can take to protect yourself, by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General. Additionally, any suspected identity theft should be reported to law enforcement, including your state Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission.

- Visit <http://www.experian.com/credit-advice/topic-fraud-and-identity-theft.html> for general information regarding protecting your identity.
- The Federal Trade Commission has an identity theft hotline: 1-877-438-4338; TTY: 1-866-653-4261. They also provide information online at www.ftc.gov/idtheft. For Mail: Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20580.
- **For Maryland residents**, the Attorney General can be contacted at 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023, www.oag.state.md.us.