2024-240



788 N. St. Rt. 2 New Martinsville, WV 26155

<< Date>> (Format: Month Day, Year)

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<<first_name>> <<middle_name>> <<last_name>> <<suffix>>
<<address_1>>
<<address_2>>
<<city>>, <<state_province>> <<postal_code>>
<<country>>
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Dear <<first name>>:

Bayer Heritage Federal Credit Union ("Bayer Heritage") values your privacy, which is why we are contacting you about a recent incident that may have involved some of your personal information. While we have no reason to believe this information has been misused, we want to make you aware of the incident and provide information about what you can do to protect yourself, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

What Happened? We recently learned that an unauthorized party gained access to certain Bayer Heritage computer systems. Upon discovering the incident, we promptly took steps to contain it. We also engaged a leading, third-party forensic investigation firm to confirm the security of our systems and to further investigate. Based on the results of the investigation, we believe that the unauthorized party acquired copies of certain Bayer Heritage files between October 31, 2023 and November 1, 2023.

What Information Was Involved? We undertook a comprehensive review of the Bayer Heritage files potentially involved in the incident. On December 1, 2023, we determined that these files contained your name, coupled with your < bcb_text_l(data elements)>>>.

What We Are Doing. While we are not aware of any misuse of your personal information, we are offering a complimentary two-year membership of Experian Identity Works Credit 3B. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with identity protection services focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft. Identity Works Credit 3B is completely free to you, and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score. For more information on identity theft prevention and Identity Works Credit 3B, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary two-year membership, please see the additional information provided in this letter. Additionally, we are evaluating our technical security measures for ways to prevent a similar incident in the future.

What You Can Do. We encourage you to take advantage of the complimentary credit monitoring included in this letter. Additionally, you can find more information on steps to protect yourself against possible identity theft or fraud in the enclosed *Additional Important Information* sheet.

For More Information. We value the trust you place in us to protect your privacy, take our responsibility to safeguard your personal information seriously, and apologize for any inconvenience this incident might cause. For further information and assistance, please call <<TFN>>>, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday, excluding major U.S. holidays.

Sincerely,

Robert Burrow, President/CEO

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ACTIVATING YOUR COMPLIMENTARY CREDIT MONITORING

To help protect your identity, we are offering a **complimentary** two-year membership of Experian IdentityWorksSM Credit 3B. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with superior identity protection support focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft.

Activate IdentityWorks Credit 3B Now in Three Easy Steps

- 1. ENROLL by: <
b2b text 6(activation deadline)>> (Your code will not work after this date.)
- 2. VISIT the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit
- 3. PROVIDE the Activation Code: <<activation code s_n>

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with identity restoration or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian Identity Works online, please contact Experian's customer care team at 877-288-8057. Be prepared to provide engagement number << b2b_text_2(engagement number)>> as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services by Experian.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 24-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS CREDIT 3B MEMBERSHIP:

A credit card is **not** required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks Credit 3B.

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.*
- Credit Monitoring: Actively monitors Experian, Equifax and Transunion files for indicators of fraud.
- **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 Insurance**: Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

Activate your membership today at https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit or call 877-288-8057 to register with the activation code above.

What you can do to protect your information: There are additional actions you can consider taking to reduce the chances of identity theft or fraud on your account(s). Please refer to www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration for this information. If you have any questions about IdentityWorks, need help understanding something on your credit report or suspect that an item on your credit report may be fraudulent, please contact Experian's customer care team at 877-288-8057.

^{*} Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling.

^{**} 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.

Additional Important Information

As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant to protect against potential fraud and/or identity theft by, among other things, reviewing your account statements and monitoring credit reports closely. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained. You should also promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidents of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, including the police and your state's attorney general, as well as the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC").

You may wish to review the tips provided by the FTC on fraud alerts, security/credit freezes and steps you can take to avoid identity theft. For more information and to contact the FTC, please visit www.ftc.gov/idtheft or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338). You may also contact the FTC at Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580.

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.

The District of Columbia and Massachusetts law also allow consumers to place a security freeze on their credit reports. A security freeze can be placed without any 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.

To place a security freeze on your credit report, you must send a written request to each of the three major consumer reporting agencies by regular, certified or overnight mail at the addresses below or, if available, comply with the consumer reporting agencies' online security freeze request procedures:

Equifax Security Freeze 1-888-298-0045 https://www.equifax.com/personal/ credit-report-services/credit-freeze/ P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348

Experian Security Freeze 1-888-397-3742 https://www.experian. 1-888-909-8872 com/freeze/center.html P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013

TransUnion Security Freeze https://www.transunion.com/ credit-freeze P.O. Box 160 Woodlyn, PA 19094

In order to request a security freeze, you may 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 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.); and
- 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 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 or, if available, comply with the consumer reporting agencies' online procedures for lifting a security freeze, 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 or, if available, comply with the consumer reporting agencies' online procedures for removing a security freeze, 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.

Credit Reports: By law, you may obtain a free copy of your credit report once every 12 months from each of the three national credit reporting agencies. The three national credit reporting agencies have also agreed to provide free weekly online credit reports. You can obtain your free credit report by visiting www.annualcreditreport.com, by calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or by completing an Annual Credit Report Request Form and mailing it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348. You can print a copy of the request form at https://www.annualcreditreport.com/manualRequestForm.action. Alternatively, you may elect to purchase a copy of your credit report by contacting one of the three national credit reporting agencies. Contact information for the three national credit reporting agencies for the purpose of requesting a copy of your credit report or for general inquiries is as follows:

 Equifax
 Experian
 TransUnion

 1-866-349-5191
 1-888-397-3742
 1-800-888-4213

 www.equifax.com
 www.experian.com
 www.transunion.com

 P.O. Box 740241
 P.O. Box 9554
 P.O. Box 1000

 Atlanta, GA 30374
 Allen, TX 75013
 Chester, PA 19016

<u>Fraud Alerts</u>: You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. A fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit report for one (1) year. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any new accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three national credit reporting agencies using the contact information listed above. Additional information is available at www.annualcreditreport.com.

<u>District of Columbia Residents</u>: District of Columbia residents can contact the Office of the Attorney general to obtain information about steps to take to avoid identity theft from the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia at 441 4th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001, 202-727-3400, <u>oag@dc.gov</u>, <u>https://oag.dc.gov/</u>. The District of Columbia law also allows consumers to place a security freeze on their credit reports without any charge.