## 2024-630



Dear		:

March 29, 2024

Grote Enterprises, LLC, on behalf of itself and its related entities, Thomas J. Dyer Company, CINFAB, LLC, and Design Build, Inc. dba Commercial HVAC (collectively, "Grote") is writing to inform you of an incident that may affect the security of some of your personal information. We take this incident and the obligation to safeguard the information in our care seriously. This letter provides information about the steps you can take to protect your information against identity theft and fraud, should you feel it appropriate to do so.

Grote is committed to maintaining the confidentiality of its information, protecting the privacy rights of its employees, and ensuring that its proprietary information remains in its sole possession. As part of our ongoing commitment to the privacy and security of information in our care, we are offering you access to credit monitoring and identity theft protection services for 24 months through Experian IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup> at no cost to you. If you wish to activate these complimentary services, you may follow the instructions included below. We encourage you to enroll in these services as we are unable to act on your behalf to do so.

If you believe there was fraudulent use of your information as a result of this incident and would like to discuss how you may be able to resolve those issues, please reach out to an Experian agent. 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 from the date of the incident (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 Identity Restoration is available to you for 24 months 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.

While identity restoration assistance is immediately available to you, we also encourage you to activate the fraud detection tools available through Experian IdentityWorks as a complimentary 24-month membership. This product provides you with superior identity detection and resolution of identity theft. To start monitoring your personal information, please follow the steps below:

- Ensure that you enroll by June 30, 2024 (Your code will not work after this date.)
- Visit the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: https://www.experianidworks.com/credit
- Provide your activation code:

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with Identity Restoration that arose as a result of this incident, or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at (877) 890-9332 by June 30, 2024. Be prepared to provide engagement number B118206 as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.

## ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 24-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS MEMBERSHIP

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.<sup>1</sup>
- **Credit Monitoring:** Actively monitors Experian file for indicators of fraud.
- **Identity Restoration:** Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARE**<sup>TM</sup>: You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **\$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance**<sup>2</sup>: Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

## **Monitor Your Accounts**

Under U.S. law, a consumer is entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. To order a free credit report, visit <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u> or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. Consumers may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of their credit report.

Consumers have the right to place an initial or extended "fraud alert" on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is placed on a consumer's credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer's credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer's identity before extending new credit. If consumers are the victim of identity theft, they are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should consumers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 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.

wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any of the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, consumers have the right to place a "credit freeze" on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without the consumer's express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in a consumer's name without consent. However, consumers should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in their credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application they make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, consumers cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on their credit report. To request a credit freeze, individuals may need to provide some or all of the following information:

- 1. Full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
- 2. Social Security number;
- 3. Date of birth;
- 4. Addresses for the prior two to 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, etc.); and
- 7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft if they are a victim of identity theft.

Should consumers wish to place a credit freeze or fraud alert, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion	
https://www.equifax.com/personal/c	https://www.experian.com/help/	https://www.transunion.com/credit-	
redit-report-services/		help	
1-888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	1-800-916-8800	
Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box	Experian Fraud Alert, P.O. Box	TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box	
105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069	9554, Allen, TX 75013	2000, Chester, PA 19016	
Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box	Experian Credit Freeze, P.O. Box	TransUnion Credit Freeze, P.O.	
105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788	9554, Allen, TX 75013	Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094	

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.

Consumers may further educate themselves regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps they can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or their state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; <u>www.identitytheft.gov</u>; 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been

misused to file a complaint with them. Consumers can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Consumers have the right to file a police report if they ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, consumers will likely need to provide some proof that they have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and the relevant state Attorney General. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

We understand that you may have questions that are not addressed in this notice. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact our dedicated call center at (833) 918-5939, which is available from 9am to 9pm Eastern from Monday to Friday, excluding major U.S. holidays. You may also write to Grote at 5240 Lester Road, Cincinnati, OH 45213.

Sincerely,

Grote Enterprises, LLC