

#### Brown Paindiris & Scott, LLP

Secure Processing Center P.O. Box 3826 Suwanee, GA 30024



Dear

The privacy and security of the personal information we maintain is of the utmost importance to Brown Paindiris & Scott, LLP ("Brown Paindiris & Scott"). We are writing with important information regarding a recent data security incident that involved some of your information. We want to provide you with information about the incident, explain the services we are making available to you, and let you know that we continue to take significant measures to protect your information.

Upon learning of this incident, Brown Paindiris & Scott immediately began efforts to remediate the incident and commenced a prompt and thorough investigation. As part of our investigation, we have been working very closely with external cybersecurity professionals experienced in handling these types of incidents. After an extensive forensic investigation and manual document review, we discovered on March 18, 2024 that some of your personal information may have been impacted as a result of the incident, specifically your

We have no evidence that any of your information has been used for financial fraud or identity theft as a result of this incident. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, we want to make you aware of the incident. To protect you from potential misuse of your information, we are offering a complimentary two-year membership of Identity Defense Complete credit and identity monitoring. For more information on identity theft prevention and the credit monitoring product being offered to you, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary 24-month membership, please see the additional information provided in this letter.

This letter also provides other precautionary measures you can take to protect your personal information, including placing a Fraud Alert and/or Security Freeze on your credit files, and/or obtaining a free credit report. Additionally, you should always remain vigilant in reviewing your financial account statements and credit reports for fraudulent or irregular activity on a regular basis.

We are committed to maintaining the privacy of personal information in our possession and have taken many precautions to safeguard it. We continually evaluate and modify our practices and internal controls to enhance the security and privacy of your personal information.

If you have any further questions regarding this incident, please call our dedicated and confidential toll-free response line that we have set up to respond to questions at **set to the set of the se** 

Sincerely,

**Brown Paindiris & Scott, LLP.** 2252 Main St. Glastonbury, CT 06033

### - OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION -

### 1. Enrolling in Complimentary 24-Month Credit Monitoring.

Identity Defense

Enter your Activation Code: Enrollment Deadline:

Service Term: 24 Months

# **Identity Defense Complete**

## Key Features

- 1-Bureau Credit Monitoring
- Monthly Credit Score and Tracker (VantageScore 3.0)
- Real-Time Authentication Alerts
- High-Risk Transaction Monitoring
- Address Change Monitoring
- Dark Web Monitoring
- Wallet Protection
- Security Freeze Assist
- \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance\*\*

To enroll in Identity Defense, visit

- 1. Enter your unique Activation Code Enter your Activation Code and click 'Redeem Code'.
- 2. Create Your Account Enter your email address, create your password, and click 'Create Account'.
- 3. Register

Enter your legal name, home address, phone number, date of birth, Social Security Number, and click 'Complete Account'.

4. Complete Activation Click 'Continue to Dashboard' to finish enrolling.

The deadline to enroll is After After the enrollment process will close, and your Identity Defense code will no longer be active. If you do not enroll by you will not be able to take advantage of Identity Defense, so please enroll before the deadline.

If you need assistance with the enrollment process or have questions regarding Identity Defense, please call Identity Defense directly at

### 2. <u>Placing a Fraud Alert on Your Credit File.</u>

Whether or not you choose to use the complimentary 24-month credit monitoring services, we recommend that you place an initial one-year "Fraud Alert" on your credit files, at no charge. A fraud alert tells creditors to contact you personally before they open any new accounts. To place a fraud alert, call any one of the three major credit bureaus at the numbers listed below. As soon as one credit bureau confirms your fraud alert, they will notify the others.

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
P.O. Box 105069	P.O. Box 9554	Fraud Victim Assistance Department
Atlanta, GA 30348-5069	Allen, TX 75013	P.O. Box 2000
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-	https://www.experian.com/frau	Chester, PA 19016-2000
report-services/credit-fraud-alerts/	d/center.html	https://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts
(800) 525-6285	(888) 397-3742	(800) 680-7289

### 3. <u>Consider Placing a Security Freeze on Your Credit File</u>.

If you are very concerned about becoming a victim of fraud or identity theft, you may request a "Security Freeze" be placed on your credit file, at no charge. A security freeze prohibits, with certain specific exceptions, the consumer reporting agencies from releasing your credit report or any information from it without your express authorization. You may place a security freeze on your credit report by contacting all three nationwide credit reporting companies at the numbers below and following the stated directions or by sending a request in writing, by mail, to all three credit reporting companies:

Equifax Security Freeze	Experian Security Freeze	TransUnion Security Freeze
P.O. Box 105788	P.O. Box 9554	P.O. Box 160
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788	Allen, TX 75013	Woodlyn, PA 19094
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-	http://experian.com/freeze	https://www.transunion.com/cre
report-services/credit-freeze/	(888) 397-3742	dit-freeze
(888)-298-0045		(888) 909-8872

In order to place the security freeze, you'll need to supply your name, address, date of birth, Social Security number and other personal information. After receiving your freeze request, each credit reporting company will send you a confirmation letter containing a unique PIN (personal identification number) or password. Keep the PIN or password in a safe place. You will need it if you choose to lift the freeze.

If your personal information has been used to file a false tax return, to open an account or to attempt to open an account in your name or to commit fraud or other crimes against you, you may file a police report in the City in which you currently reside.

If you do place a security freeze *prior* to enrolling in the credit monitoring service as described above, you will need to remove the freeze in order to sign up for the credit monitoring service. After you sign up for the credit monitoring service, you may refreeze your credit file.

### 4. <u>Obtaining a Free Credit Report.</u>

Under federal law, you are entitled to one free credit report every 12 months from <u>each</u> of the above three major nationwide credit reporting companies. Call **1-877-322-8228** or request your free credit reports online at **www.annualcreditreport.com**. 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.

### 5. <u>Additional Helpful Resources</u>.

Even if you do not find any suspicious activity on your initial credit reports, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends that you check your credit reports periodically. Checking your credit report periodically can help you spot problems and address them quickly.

If you find suspicious activity on your credit reports or have reason to believe your information is being misused, call your local law enforcement agency and file a police report. Be sure to obtain a copy of the police report, as many creditors will want the information it contains to absolve you of the fraudulent debts. You may also file a complaint with the FTC by contacting them on the web at www.ftc.gov/idtheft, by phone at 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338), or by mail at Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. Your complaint will be added to the FTC's Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse, where it will be accessible to law enforcement for their investigations. In addition, you may obtain information from the FTC about fraud alerts and security freezes.

If this notice letter states that your financial account information and/or credit or debit card information was impacted, we recommend that you contact your financial institution to inquire about steps to take to protect your account, including whether you should close your account or obtain a new account number.

**Massachusetts Residents:** Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain a police report 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.