

# 20285

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

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<<b2b_text_1(RecipientName)>>
<<address_1>>
<<address_2>>
<<city>>, <<state_province>> <<postal_code>>
<<country >>
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Dear <<br/>b2b text 1(RecipientName)>>:

This letter is to advise you of a recent incident that may have involved some of your personal information, and although we have no reason to believe that any information has been misused for the purpose of committing fraud or identity theft, we are writing to inform you and to provide guidance on what you can do to protect yourself, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

On February 21, 2021, we discovered that an unknown, unauthorized third party accessed our computer system and encrypted some of our files in a ransomware attack. Upon learning of the incident, we promptly contained the incident and began restoring our systems from backups. We also engaged a forensic security firm to investigate and confirm the security of our computer systems. The forensic investigation recently concluded and determined that the third party may have acquired certain information from our systems as a part of the incident.

Based on our review of the results of the forensic investigation, we determined that the third party may have acquired information that included your name, Social Security number, and driver's license number (if contained in our files). It is also possible the third party may have acquired the names and Social Security numbers for your family members who may have been identified in our payroll, benefits, or human resources records. While the investigation did not find conclusive evidence that the third party acquired your information, and we have no evidence that your information has been misused, we are notifying you out of an abundance of caution.

We are, as a precautionary measure, offering you (as well as any other adults in your household) a complimentary two-year membership of Experian Identity Works<sup>SM</sup> 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.

If you have additional adults or minors in your household whose information you believe could have been affected by this incident, please contact the telephone number below so that additional credit monitoring can be provided for those individuals.

We take our responsibility to safeguard your personal information very seriously, and we are sorry to have to inform you of this unfortunate attack on our system. We have taken steps to further reduce the risk of this type of incident occurring in the future and we will continue to monitor our technical security measures as well as explore new ones as they are made available.

We have engaged a firm by the name of Kroll to provide support in navigating questions around the information in this letter. For further assistance (in English or Spanish), please call 1-XXX-XXXX from 9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

Sincerely,

Brooke Pickering-Cole

Executive Director, Hudson Valley Farm Hub

#### ACTIVATING YOUR COMPLIMENTARY CREDIT MONITORING (ADULTS)

To help protect your identity, we are offering a **complimentary** two-year membership of Experian IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup> 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: << EnrollmentDeadlineAd>> (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: <<br/>b2b\_text\_2(MemberIDAd)>>

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 << Engagement #Ad>> 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 ExtendCARE<sup>TM</sup>: 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 <a href="https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit">https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit</a> 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. Massachusetts law also allows 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 www.equifax.com P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348 Experian Security Freeze 1-888-397-3742 www.experian.com P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 Trans Union Security Freeze 1-888-909-8872 www.transunion.com 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
- 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.

<u>Credit Reports:</u> You may obtain a free copy of your credit report once every 12 months from each of the three national credit reporting agencies 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 1-866-349-5191 www.equifax.com P.O. Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374 Experian 1-888-397-3742 www.experian.com P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 TransUnion 1-800-888-4213 www.transunion.com P.O. Box 1000 Chester, PA 19016

Fraud Alerts: 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.

## CERTIFICATION UNDER G.L. c. 93H

I, Bruce A. Radke, duly authorized representative of Hudson Valley Farm Hub (the "Notifying Organization"), hereby certify that the Notifying Organization has complied with the credit reporting requirements of G.L. c. 93H in connection with the data security incident of which the Notifying Organization first notified the Massachusetts Attorney General's Office on April 22, 2021.

Signed under the pains and penalties of perjury.

This 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2021

Signature:

Printed Name:

Bruce A. Radke

Bur C. Ridke

Title:

Shareholder