

May 11, 2021

Administrator/Executor of the estate of <<Name>>

<<Address>>

<<Address>>

<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip Code>>

Dear Administrator/Executor of the Estate of <<Name>>:

Hinkhouse Williams Walsh LLP (“Hinkhouse”) values and respects the privacy of information entrusted to us, which is why we are writing to advise you of a recent incident that may have involved some of the above-referenced individual’s personal information. This letter provides some additional information about the incident and steps you can take to protect against the misuse of the above-referenced individual’s personal information.

What Happened? We recently learned that some of the above-referenced individual’s information could have been viewed by an unauthorized third party who gained access to one Hinkhouse employee email account for a limited period of time from March 8, 2021 to March 9, 2021.

What Information Was Involved? On or around April 13, 2021, our investigation determined that the involved email account contained the above-referenced individual’s name, Social Security number, and/or date of birth.

What We Are Doing. Upon learning of the incident, we promptly reset the credentials of the affected email account to prevent further access. We also retained a leading forensic security firm to investigate and conduct a comprehensive search for personal information in the affected email account and to confirm the security of our email and computer systems.

What You Can Do. While credit monitoring and identity theft protection services are not available for deceased individuals, there are steps you can take to request a copy of your deceased relative’s credit report. An executor or surviving spouse can place a request to any of the three national credit reporting agencies for a copy of the deceased individual’s credit report along with making one of the following notations:

- “Deceased” – Do not issue credit”; or
- “If an application is made for credit, please notify the following person(s): (e.g., list a surviving relative, executor/trustee of the estate, and/or local law enforcement agency —noting the relationship to the deceased individual).”

Contact information for the three national credit reporting agencies for the purpose of requesting a copy of your deceased relative’s credit report or for general inquiries, including obtaining information about fraud alerts and placing a security freeze on your relative’s credit files, is as follows:

Equifax
1-800-349-9960

Experian
1-888-397-3742

TransUnion
1-888-909-8872

www.equifax.com
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348

www.experian.com
P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013

www.transunion.com
P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19022

For more information regarding identity theft and the deceased, please visit <https://www.idtheftcenter.org/knowledge-base/identity-theft-and-the-deceased-prevention-and-victim-tips/>. You may wish to review the tips provided by the Federal Trade Commission on how to avoid identity theft. For more information and to contact the FTC, please visit www.ftc.gov/idtheft or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (877-438-4338). You may also contact the FTC at: Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20580.

Individuals interacting with credit reporting agencies have rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage you to review your rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/bcfc_consumer-rights-summary_2018-09.pdf, or by requesting information in writing from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

This notification was not delayed as a result of a law enforcement investigation.

New York State Residents: New York residents can obtain information about preventing identity theft from the New York Attorney General's Office at: Office of the Attorney General for the State of New York, Bureau of Consumer Frauds & Protection, The Capitol, Albany, New York 12224-0341; <https://ag.ny.gov/consumer-frauds/identity-theft>; (800) 771-7755.

North Carolina Residents: North Carolina residents can obtain information about preventing identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office at: North Carolina Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 877-5-NO-SCAM (Toll-free within North Carolina); 919-716-6000; www.ncdoj.gov.

Massachusetts Residents: Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. When a victim of identity theft, an individual also has 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.

Other Important Information. For further information and assistance, please call 312-784-5460 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. CT.

Sincerely,

Hinkhouse Williams Walsh LLP