

21872

July 26, 2021

[Name]  
[Address]  
[City], [State] [ZIP]

Dear [Name],

We are writing to notify you of an issue involving some of your personal information. On April 26, 2021, The Stop & Shop Supermarket C. LLC (Stop & Shop) learned that we had not received two boxes of paper files that our shipping vendor was transferring for us between our facilities. Promptly after learning of the issue, we began an extensive investigation. We determined the shipping vendor had picked up the boxes from one of our facilities but did not deliver the boxes to their final destination. The shipping vendor then conducted its own investigation of the situation. On June 29, 2021, the shipping vendor informed Stop & Shop it was unable to locate the boxes and was declaring the boxes lost. The boxes contained receipts from Western Union transactions made at certain Stop & Shop supermarkets. The personal information contained on the receipts may have included your name, address, date of birth, and the government identification number you provided (e.g., driver's license number or other state identification number, passport number, or military identification number). Based on the investigations that Stop & Shop and the shipping vendor conducted, we have no evidence at this time that any of the information contained in the boxes has been acquired by an unauthorized party or misused as a result of this issue. Nonetheless, we have discontinued our use of the shipping vendor and are exploring alternative methods for more secure data handling.

Stop & Shop takes its obligation to safeguard personal information very seriously and is alerting you about this issue so you can take steps to help protect yourself. You are entitled under U.S. law to one free credit report annually from each of the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies. To order your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228. We encourage you to remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements and monitoring your free credit reports.

In addition, we have arranged to offer you identity protection and credit monitoring services through Kroll for two (2) years at no cost to you. The attached Reference Guide provides information on how to register and recommendations by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission for the protection of personal information.

We hope this information is useful to you. If you have any questions regarding this issue, please call [insert toll-free number] [insert days and times of operation].

We regret any inconvenience this may cause you.

Sincerely,

[Insert name of appropriate brand executive]

## Reference Guide

We encourage affected individuals to take the following steps:

**Register for Identity Protection and Credit Monitoring Services.** We have arranged with Kroll to help you protect your identity and your credit information for two years at no cost to you. The following services are available to you:

- **Single Bureau Credit Monitoring.** You will receive alerts when there are changes to your credit data—for instance, when a new line of credit is applied for in your name. If you do not recognize the activity, you'll have the option to call a Kroll fraud specialist, who will be able to help you determine if it is an indicator of identity theft.
- **Fraud Consultation.** You have unlimited access to consultation with a Kroll fraud specialist. Support includes showing you ways to protect your identity, explaining your rights and protections under the law, assistance with fraud alerts, and interpreting how personal information is accessed and used, including investigating suspicious activity that could be tied to an identity theft event.
- **Identity Theft Restoration.** If you become a victim of identity theft, an experienced Kroll licensed investigator will work on your behalf to resolve related issues.

To enroll in the identity monitoring services, follow the steps below:

Visit <<IDMonitoringURL>> to activate the identity monitoring services.

*You have until <<Date>> to activate your identity monitoring services.*

Membership Number: <<Member ID>>

Please note: Kroll's activation website is only compatible with the current version or one version earlier of Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Edge. To receive credit services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file.

**Order Your Free Credit Report.** To order your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228, or complete the Annual Credit Report Request Form on the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's ("FTC's") website at [www.consumer.ftc.gov](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov) and mail it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281. The three nationwide consumer reporting agencies provide free annual credit reports only through the website, toll-free number or request form.

When you receive your credit report, review it carefully. Look for accounts you did not open. Look in the "inquiries" section for names of creditors from whom you haven't requested credit. Some companies bill under names other than their store or commercial names. The consumer reporting agency will be able to tell you when that is the case. Look in the "personal information" section for any inaccuracies in your information (such as home address and Social Security number). If you see anything you do not understand, call the consumer reporting agency at the telephone number on the report. Errors in this information may be a warning sign of possible identity theft. You should notify the consumer reporting agencies of any inaccuracies in your report, whether due to error or fraud, as soon as possible so the information can be investigated and, if found to be in error, corrected. If there are accounts or charges you did not authorize, immediately notify the appropriate consumer reporting

agency by telephone and in writing. Consumer reporting agency staff will review your report with you. If the information cannot be explained, then you will need to call the creditors involved. Information that cannot be explained also should be reported to your local police or sheriff's office because it may signal criminal activity.

**Report Incidents.** If you detect any unauthorized transactions in a financial account, promptly notify your payment card company or financial institution. If you detect any incident of identity theft or fraud, promptly report the incident to law enforcement, the FTC and your state Attorney General. If you believe your identity has been stolen, the FTC recommends that you take these steps:

- Close the accounts that you have confirmed or believe have been tampered with or opened fraudulently. For streamlined checklists and sample letters to help guide you through the recovery process, please visit <https://www.identitytheft.gov/>.
- File a local police report. Obtain a copy of the police report and submit it to your creditors and any others that may require proof of the identity theft crime.

You can contact the FTC to learn more about how to protect yourself from becoming a victim of identity theft and how to repair identity theft:

Federal Trade Commission  
 Consumer Response Center  
 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
 Washington, DC 20580  
 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338)  
[www.ftc.gov/idtheft/](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft/)

**Consider Placing a Fraud Alert on Your Credit File.** To protect yourself from possible identity theft, consider placing a fraud alert on your credit file. A fraud alert helps protect you against the possibility of an identity thief opening new credit accounts in your name. When a merchant checks the credit history of someone applying for credit, the merchant gets a notice that the applicant may be the victim of identity theft. The alert notifies the merchant to take steps to verify the identity of the applicant. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by calling any one of the toll-free numbers provided below. You will reach an automated telephone system that allows you to flag your file with a fraud alert at all three consumer reporting agencies. For more information on fraud alerts, you also may contact the FTC as described above.

Equifax	Equifax Information Services LLC P.O. Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374	1-800-525-6285	<a href="http://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>
Experian	Experian Inc. P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013	1-888-397-3742	<a href="http://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>
TransUnion	TransUnion LLC P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016	1-800-680-7289	<a href="http://www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>

**Consider Placing a Security Freeze on Your Credit File.** You may wish to place a “security freeze” (also known as a “credit freeze”) on your credit file. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential creditors from accessing your credit file at the consumer reporting agencies without your consent. *Unlike a fraud alert, you must place a security freeze on your credit file at each consumer reporting agency individually.* There is no charge to place or lift a security freeze. For more information on security freezes, you may contact the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies or the FTC as described above. As the instructions for establishing a security freeze differ from state to state, please contact the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies to find out more information.

The consumer reporting agencies may require proper identification prior to honoring your request. For example, you may be asked to provide:

- Your full name with middle initial and generation (such as Jr., Sr., II, III)
- Your Social Security number
- Your date of birth
- Addresses where you have lived over the past five years
- A legible copy of a government-issued identification card (such as a state driver’s license or military ID card)
- Proof of your current residential address (such as a current utility bill or account statement)

**For Massachusetts Residents.** You have the right to obtain a police report and request a security freeze as described above. The consumer reporting agencies may require that you provide certain personal information (such as your name, Social Security number, date of birth, and address) and proper identification (such as a copy of a government-issued ID card and a bill or statement) prior to honoring your request to place a security freeze on your account.

**For North Carolina Residents.** You can obtain information from the North Carolina Attorney General’s Office about preventing identity theft. You can contact the North Carolina Attorney General at:

North Carolina Attorney General’s Office  
9001 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-9001  
(877) 566-7226 (toll-free in North Carolina)  
(919) 716-6400  
[www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov)

**For Rhode Island Residents.** You may obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General at:

Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General  
Consumer Protection Unit  
150 South Main Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401)-274-4400  
<http://www.riag.ri.gov>

You have the right to obtain a police report and request a security freeze as described above. The consumer reporting agencies may require that you provide certain personal information (such as your name, Social Security number, date of birth, and address) and proper identification (such as a copy of a government-issued ID card and a bill or statement) prior to honoring your request for a security freeze on your account.