

 SmartStart Employment Screening
Return to IDX
P.O. Box 989728
West Sacramento, CA 95798-9728

22065

To Enroll, Please Call:
1-833-325-1769
Or Visit:
<https://response.idx.us/smartstart>
Enrollment Code: <<ENROLLMENT>>

<<FIRST NAME>> <<LAST NAME>> <<Suffix>>
<<ADDRESS1>>
<<ADDRESS2>>
<<CITY>>, <<STATE>> <<ZIP>>

August 24, 2021

Re: Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear <<FIRST NAME>> <<LAST NAME>> <<Suffix>>,

I am writing to inform you of a data security incident that involved your personal information. You may not have heard of SmartStart Employment Screening, Inc. ("SmartStart") but we are a company which provides background screening services to other companies. Your data may have been with us because you applied for a position with one of these companies.

SmartStart takes the privacy and security of data very seriously. This is why I am notifying you of the incident, offering you credit and identity monitoring services, and informing you about steps you can take to help protect your personal information.

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 prohibits a consumer 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:

Equifax Security Freeze: P.O. Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, 1-800-685-1111, www.equifax.com

Experian Security Freeze: P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, 1-888-397-3742,
www.experian.com/freeze/center.html

TransUnion Security Freeze: P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA, 19016, 1-888-909-8872, freeze.transunion.com

In order to request a security freeze, you will 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, the addresses where you have lived over the prior five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill, telephone bill, rental agreement, or deed;
6. A legible photocopy of a government issued identification card (state driver's license or ID card, military identification, etc.);
7. Social Security Card, pay stub, or W2;
8. 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 consumer 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 temporarily 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 consumer reporting agencies by mail and include proper identification (name, address, and Social Security number) and the PIN 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 consumer 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 consumer reporting agencies by mail and include proper identification (name, address, and Social Security number) and the PIN or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze. The consumer reporting agencies have three (3) business days after receiving your request to remove the security freeze.

In order to determine whether any unauthorized credit was obtained with your information, you may obtain a copy of your credit report at www.annualcreditreport.com or 877-322-8228. You may also request information on how to place a fraud alert by contacting any of the above consumer reporting agencies. A fraud alert is intended to alert you if someone attempts to obtain credit in your name without your consent. It is recommended that you remain vigilant for any incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and your credit report for unauthorized activity. You may also contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to learn more about how to prevent identity theft:

FTC, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580,
www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/, 877-IDTHEFT (438-4338).

Even though we have no evidence that your personal information has been misused, as an added precaution, we are offering you 24 months of credit monitoring and identity theft restoration services at no cost to you through IDX. We strongly encourage you to enroll in the credit monitoring and identity monitoring services we are offering through IDX to protect your personal information. To enroll, please visit <https://response.idx.us/smartstart> or call 1-833-325-1769 and provide the enrollment code at the top of this letter.

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. Additional information describing your services is included with this letter. Please note you must enroll by November 24, 2021. If you have questions or need assistance, please call IDX at 1-833-325-1769.

If you have any questions about this letter, please call 1-833-325-1769, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time. Please accept our sincere apologies and know that we deeply regret any worry or inconvenience that this may cause you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Elaine Rosenberg".

Elaine Rosenberg
Chief Executive Officer
SmartStart Employment Screening, Inc.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO PROTECT YOUR PERSONAL INFORMATION

Review Your Account Statements and Notify Law Enforcement of Suspicious Activity: As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements and 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 also should promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidence of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, your state attorney general, and/or the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

Copy of Credit Report: You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies once every 12 months by visiting <http://www.annualcreditreport.com/>, calling toll-free 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 also can contact one of the following three national credit reporting agencies:

TransUnion P.O. Box 1000 Chester, PA 19016 1-800-916-8800 www.transunion.com	Experian P.O. Box 2002 Allen, TX 75013 1-888-397-3742 www.experian.com	Equifax P.O. Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374 1-866-349-5191 www.equifax.com	Free Annual Report P.O. Box 105281 Atlanta, GA 30348 1-877-322-8228 annualcreditreport.com
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Fraud Alert: You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. An initial fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit file for at least 90 days. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three credit reporting agencies identified above. Additional information is available at <http://www.annualcreditreport.com>.

Security Freeze: Under U.S. law, you have the right to put a security freeze on your credit file for up to one year at no cost. This will prevent new credit from being opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate the freeze. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential creditors from accessing your credit report without your consent. As a result, using a security freeze may interfere with or delay your ability to obtain credit. You must separately place a security freeze on your credit file with each credit reporting agency. In order to place a security freeze, you may be required to provide the consumer reporting agency with information that identifies you including your full name, Social Security number, date of birth, current and previous addresses, a copy of your state-issued identification card, and a recent utility bill, bank statement or insurance statement.

Additional Free Resources: You can obtain information from the consumer reporting agencies, the FTC, or from your respective state Attorney General about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft. You may report suspected identity theft to local law enforcement, including to the FTC or to the Attorney General in your state.

Federal Trade Commission 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, DC 20580 consumer.ftc.gov , and www.ftc.gov/idtheft 1-877-438-4338	Maryland Attorney General 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202 oag.state.md.us 1-888-743-0023	North Carolina Attorney General 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699 ncdoj.gov 1-877-566-7226	Rhode Island Attorney General 150 South Main Street Providence, RI 02903 http://www.riag.ri.gov 401-274-4400
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You also have certain rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA): These rights include to know what is in your file; to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information; to have consumer reporting agencies correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; as well as other rights. For more information about the FCRA, and your rights pursuant to the FCRA, please visit http://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504_cfpb_summary_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf