

23440



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

<<first_name>> <<middle_name>> <<last_name>> <<suffix>>
<<address_1>>
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<<city>>, <<state_province>> <<postal_code>>
<<country>>

Dear <<first_name>> <<middle_name>> <<last_name>> <<suffix>>,

University Hospital (UH) is committed to protecting the privacy and security of our patients' information. Regrettably, we are writing to inform you of an incident we identified that may have involved some of your information. This notice explains the incident, measures we have taken to protect your information, and some steps you can take in response.

On August 24, 2021, we learned that some of your information maintained at UH may have been provided to unauthorized individuals outside of UH by a now-former employee between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2017. The former employee had authorized access to patient information to perform the essential functions of his/her job and exceeded the authorized use of that access. A criminal investigation is ongoing. We have no indication that your specific information was misused but felt it was important to alert you to this incident. The individual had access to your name, address, date of birth, Social Security number, health insurance information, medical record number and clinical information related to care you may have received at UH.

As a precaution, we are offering you a complimentary two-year membership to Experian IdentityWorksSM 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. IdentityWorks 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 IdentityWorks Credit 3B, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary two-year membership, please see the additional detail provided in this letter.

We want to assure you that we are taking this matter very seriously. We deeply regret that this incident has occurred and greatly value the trust you have placed in University Hospital. Please be reassured knowing that we have taken the opportunity to review our internal policies, procedures and staff training pertaining to the privacy of patient information. If you have questions, or need assistance, please call 1-???-???-????, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am through 6:30 pm Eastern Time, excluding some U.S. holidays.

Sincerely,

Danette L. Slevinski, Chief Compliance and Privacy Officer
University Hospital

To help protect your identity, we are offering a **complimentary** two-year membership of Experian IdentityWorksSM 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: <<b2b_text_1(Enrollment Deadline)>> (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**: <<Activation Code s_u>>

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with identity restoration or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at 877-288-8057. Be prepared to provide engagement number <<b2b_text_2(Engagement Number)>> 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 without needing to enroll in the product** regarding any fraud issues. Identity Restoration specialists are available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud. Once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks, you will have access to the following additional features:

- **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.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARETM:** You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **\$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance^{**}:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

Activate your membership today at <https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit> 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. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage.

ADDITIONAL STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

We remind you it is always advisable to be vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing your account statements and free credit reports for any unauthorized activity. You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies. To order your annual free credit report, please visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call toll free at 1-877-322-8228. Contact information for the three nationwide credit reporting companies is as follows:

- *Equifax*, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, www.equifax.com, 1-800-685-1111
- *Experian*, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742
- *TransUnion*, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-800-916-8800

If you believe you are the victim of identity theft or have reason to believe your personal information has been misused, you should immediately contact the Federal Trade Commission and/or the Attorney General's office in your state. You can obtain information from these sources about steps an individual can take to avoid identity theft as well as information

about fraud alerts and security freezes. You should also contact your local law enforcement authorities and file a police report. Obtain a copy of the police report in case you are asked to provide copies to creditors to correct your records. Contact information for the Federal Trade Commission is as follows:

- *Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Response Centre, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), www.ftc.gov/idtheft*

Fraud Alerts: There are two types of fraud alerts you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud—an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for one year. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft with the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by contacting any of the three national credit reporting agencies.

Credit Freezes: You have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, free of charge, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN that is issued to you when you initiate a freeze. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a security freeze, potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a security freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit.

There is no fee to place or lift a security freeze. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a security freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. For information and instructions to place a security freeze, contact each of the credit reporting agencies at the addresses below:

- **Experian Security Freeze**, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com
- **TransUnion Security Freeze**, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com
- **Equifax Security Freeze**, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.com

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 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.)
7. If you are a victim of identity theft, include a copy of the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft

The credit reporting agencies have one business day after receiving your request by toll-free telephone or secure electronic means, or three business days after receiving your request by mail, to place a security freeze on your credit report. The credit bureaus must also send written confirmation to you within five 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, or to lift a security freeze for a specified period of time, you must submit a request through a toll-free telephone number, a secure electronic means maintained by a credit reporting agency, or by sending a written request via regular, certified, or overnight mail to the credit reporting agencies 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 identity 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 one hour after receiving your request by toll-free telephone or secure electronic means, or up to three business days after receiving your request by mail, to lift the security freeze for those identified entities or for the specified period of time.

To remove the security freeze, you must submit a request through a toll-free telephone number, a secure electronic means maintained by a credit reporting agency, or by sending a written request via regular, certified, or overnight mail

to each of the three credit bureaus 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 one hour after receiving your request by toll-free telephone or secure electronic means, or up to three business days after receiving your request by mail, to remove the security freeze.

Additional information for residents of the following states:

District of Columbia: You may contact and obtain information from your attorney general at: *Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia*, 441 4th Street NW, Washington, DC 20001, 1-202-727-3400, www.oag.dc.gov

Connecticut: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *Connecticut Attorney General's Office*, 165 Capitol Ave, Hartford, CT 06106, 1-860-808-5318, www.ct.gov/ag

Massachusetts: Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to file and obtain a copy of a police report. You also have the right to request a security freeze, as described above. You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General*, One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02108, 1-617-727-8400, www.mass.gov/ago/contact-us.html

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Appendix

University Hospital is an instrumentality of the State of New Jersey operating exclusively within New Jersey and, as such, is providing this notice as a courtesy.

On August 24, 2021, University Hospital learned that a now-former employee may have accessed and provided patient information to unauthorized individuals between January 1, 2016 and December 31, 2017. This former employee had authorized access to patient information to perform the essential functions of their job at University Hospital but exceeded the authorized use of that access. A criminal investigation is ongoing. The former employee may have provided University Hospital patients' names, addresses, dates of birth, social security numbers, health insurance information, medical record numbers and clinical information related to care received at University Hospital following motor vehicle accidents.

On October 8, 2021, pursuant to HIPAA and M.G.L. c. 93H, § 3(b)¹, University Hospital mailed letters to those patients whose information may have been involved in this incident. As a precaution, University Hospital is offering the Massachusetts residents a complimentary two-year credit monitoring and identity protection membership. A copy of the letter is enclosed. University Hospital also established a dedicated incident response line that individuals can call to obtain more information regarding the incident.

To mitigate the risk of a similar situation in the future, the individual no longer works at the hospital, and University Hospital has reviewed its internal policies, procedures and staff training pertaining to the privacy of patient information.

¹ This report is not, and does not constitute, a waiver of University Hospital's objection that Massachusetts lacks personal jurisdiction over University Hospital regarding any claims related to this incident.