

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE REVIEW CAREFULLY

Dear ,

We are writing with important information regarding a recent security incident. The privacy and security of the personal information we maintain is of the utmost importance to ALM Media Properties, LLC ("ALM"). We wanted to provide you with information about the incident and let you know that we continue to take significant measures to protect your information.

We recently detected anomalous network activity and discovered that an unauthorized individual may have obtained access to a limited amount of personal information. We immediately commenced a thorough investigation. As part of our investigation, we engaged external cybersecurity professionals experienced in handling these types of incidents. Our investigation concluded that between March 31, 2021 and May 12, 2021, an unauthorized party removed a limited number of files and folders from our system. We then worked to identify what personal information, if any, might have been present in those files. After a complex analysis of those files, we discovered on January 4, 2022 that the impacted files contained some of your personal information, specifically your **Your Social Security number was not contained in the files.** 

We have no indication or evidence that any of that data has been or will be misused. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, we want to make you aware of the incident. This letter provides precautionary measures that you can take to protect your personal information, including placing a fraud alert and/or security freeze on your credit files, and/or obtaining a free credit report. Additionally, you should always remain vigilant in reviewing your financial account statements and credit reports for fraudulent or irregular activity on a regular basis.

Please accept our sincere apologies that this incident occurred. We are committed to maintaining the privacy of personal information in our possession and have taken many precautions to safeguard it. We continually evaluate and modify our practices and internal controls to enhance the security and privacy of your personal information.

If you have any further questions regarding this incident, please call our dedicated and confidential toll-free response line that we have set up to respond to questions at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The response line is staffed with professionals familiar with this incident and knowledgeable on what you can do if you are concerned about potential misuse of your information. The response line is available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET.

Sincerely,

ALM Media Properties, LLC

#### - OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION -

## 1. Placing a Fraud Alert on Your Credit File.

We recommend that you place an initial one-year "Fraud Alert" on your credit files, at no charge. A fraud alert tells creditors to contact you personally before they open any new accounts. To place a fraud alert, call any <u>one</u> of the three major credit bureaus at the numbers listed below. As soon as one credit bureau confirms your fraud alert, they will notify the others.

Equifax
P. O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348
<a href="https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts/">https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts/</a>
1-800-525-6285

Experian
P. O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
<a href="https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html">https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html</a>
1-888-397-3742

TransUnion
P. O. Box 6790
Fullerton, CA 92834-6790
<a href="https://www.transunion.com/fraudalerts">https://www.transunion.com/fraudalerts</a>
1-800-680-7289

## 2. Consider Placing a Security Freeze on Your Credit File.

If you are very concerned about becoming a victim of fraud or identity theft, you may request a "Security Freeze" be placed on your credit file, at no charge. A security freeze prohibits, with certain specific exceptions, the consumer reporting agencies from releasing your credit report or any information from it without your express authorization. You may place a security freeze on your credit report by contacting <u>all three</u> nationwide credit reporting companies at the numbers below and following the stated directions or by sending a request in writing, by mail, to <u>all three</u> credit reporting companies:

Equifax Security Freeze
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348
<a href="https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/">https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/</a>

1-800-349-9960

P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 http://experian.com/freeze 1-888-397-3742 TransUnion Security Freeze
P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016
<a href="https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze">https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze</a>
1-888-909-8872

In order to place the security freeze, you'll need to supply your name, address, date of birth, Social Security number and other personal information. After receiving your freeze request, each credit reporting company will send you a confirmation letter containing a unique PIN (personal identification number) or password. Keep the PIN or password in a safe place. You will need it if you choose to lift the freeze.

If your personal information has been used to file a false tax return, to open an account or to attempt to open an account in your name or to commit fraud or other crimes against you, you may file a police report in the City in which you currently reside.

## 3. Obtaining a Free Credit Report.

Under federal law, you are entitled to one free credit report every 12 months from <u>each</u> of the above three major nationwide credit reporting companies. Call **1-877-322-8228** or request your free credit reports online at <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u>. Once you receive your credit reports, review them for discrepancies. Identify any accounts you did not open or inquiries from creditors that you did not authorize. Verify all information is correct. If you have questions or notice incorrect information, contact the credit reporting company.

## 4. Additional Helpful Resources.

Even if you do not find any suspicious activity on your initial credit reports, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends that you check your credit reports periodically. Checking your credit report periodically can help you spot problems and address them quickly.

If you find suspicious activity on your credit reports or have reason to believe your information is being misused, call your local law enforcement agency and file a police report. Be sure to obtain a copy of the police report, as many creditors will want the information it contains to absolve you of the fraudulent debts. You may also file a complaint with the FTC by contacting them on the web at <a href="https://www.ftc.gov/idtheft">www.ftc.gov/idtheft</a>, by phone at 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338), or by mail at Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. Your complaint will be added to the FTC's Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse, where it will be accessible to law enforcement for their investigations. In addition, you may obtain information from the FTC about fraud alerts and security freezes.

If this notice letter states that your financial account information and/or payment card information was impacted, we recommend that you contact your financial institution to inquire about steps to take to protect your account, including whether you should close your account or obtain a new account number.

**Massachusetts Residents:** Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain a police report 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.