The University of Alabama

10300 SW Greenburg Rd. Suite 570 Portland, OR 97223



To Enroll, Please Call: 1-800-939-4170 Or Visit: <u>https://app.idx.us/account-</u> <u>creation/protect</u> Enrollment Code: <<XXXXXXX>>

<<Address1>> <<Address2>> <<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>

April 29, 2022

Notice of Data Breach

Dear <</First Name>> <<Last Name>>,

I am contacting you because of a security incident that occurred between March 24 and 31, 2022, that may have resulted in unauthorized access to an email (or documents attached to emails) that contained personally identifiable information about you. I want to let you know what happened, what information was vulnerable to being accessed, what we are doing to prevent future access, and to provide you with additional steps you can take in response.

WHAT HAPPENED?

On March 25, 2022, the University of Alabama (the University or UA) learned that an email account of a UA School of Law employee had been compromised as a result of a phishing attack. Upon further review, UA learned that, between March 24 and 31, 2022, three UA School of Law employee email accounts were compromised as a result of the phishing attack. This means that sensitive information included in those email accounts became vulnerable to being accessed by others.

The UA Office of Information Technology security team removed the improper access and began investigating the incident on March 31, 2022. During the course of the investigation, the security team scanned the email accounts to determine whether sensitive or confidential information was contained anywhere in the accounts. After thoroughly reviewing the compromised accounts, the security team found email messages or documents attached to emails that contained some personally identifiable information for approximately 166 individuals.

While we have no indication that the information was viewed or used in any way, the opportunity for it to possibly be seen existed, so we wanted to let you know. We also want to make sure you are aware of services we are offering and proactive measures you can take to protect yourself from any possible misuse of your sensitive information.

WHAT INFORMATION WAS INVOLVED?

The following information related to you was included in an email or a document attached to email somewhere within the compromised email accounts: <<variable data>>.

WHAT YOU CAN DO.

UA is offering you two years of free credit monitoring and identity theft detection services. These services are available at no charge to you. More information about these services, including how to enroll in these services, is included on the enclosure to this letter. Please do not discard this letter, as you will need to reference the enrollment code at the top of this letter should you decide to call or enroll.

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We do not have any evidence that your information was accessed or used. However, and even if you choose not to take advantage of the free credit monitoring and identity theft detection services, we have included in the enclosure other additional credit safety tips you may wish to use at any time to protect yourself from possible misuse of your information.

WHAT WE ARE DOING.

First, we apologize for the inconvenience or concern this incident may cause you. We are bringing this to your attention so that you can be alert to signs of any possible misuse of your information. Please know that the entire UA administration and I take this incident seriously, and we are committed to doing all we can to keep this from happening again.

The School of Law is now working with the Office of Information Technology to migrate email from the current School of Law on-premises Exchange environment to UA's Microsoft 365 cloud environment. Hosting email in Microsoft 365 provides robust cybersecurity features, including two-factor authentication, to help prevent unwanted access. Once this email migration is complete, the OIT security team will have the ability to monitor, protect and secure email access for School of Law students, faculty and staff. Additionally, the School of Law has initiated training to ensure employees no longer transmit or maintain sensitive information in email accounts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

You will find detailed instructions for enrollment in the credit monitoring and identity theft detection services mentioned on the enclosed document. Please do not discard this letter, as you will need to reference the enrollment code at the top of this letter should you decide to call or enroll.

Please call 1-800-939-4170 or go to <u>https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</u> for assistance or for any additional questions you may have. Agents are available Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Central Time.

Sincerely,

Frank 82

Mark E. Brandon Dean and Thomas E. McMillan Professor of Law The University of Alabama School of Law

CREDIT MONITORING SERVICES PROVIDED:

• **Single Bureau Credit Monitoring** - Monitoring of credit bureau for changes to the individual's credit file such as new credit inquires, new accounts opened, delinquent payments, improvements in the member's credit report, bankruptcies, court judgments and tax liens, new addresses, new employers and other activities that affect the individual's credit record.

• **Cyberscan** - Dark Web monitoring of underground websites, chat rooms, and malware, 24/7, to identify trading or selling of personal information like SSNs, bank accounts, email addresses, medical ID numbers, driver's license numbers, passport numbers, credit and debit cards, phone numbers, and other unique identifiers.

• **Identity Theft Insurance** - Identity theft insurance will reimburse individuals for expenses associated with restoring their identity should they become a victim of identity theft. If a member's identity is compromised, the policy provides coverage for up to \$1,000,000, with no deductible, from an A.M. Best "A-rated" carrier. Coverage is subject to the terms, limits, and/or exclusions of the policy.

• **Fully-Managed Identity Recovery** - IDX' fully-managed recovery service provides restoration for identity theft issues such as (but not limited to): account creation, criminal identity theft, medical identity theft, account takeover, rental application, tax fraud, benefits fraud and utility creation. This service includes a complete triage process for affected individuals who report suspicious activity, a personally assigned IDCare Specialist to fully manage restoration of each case, and expert guidance for those with questions about identity theft and protective measures.

To activate your credit monitoring and identity theft detection, please follow the steps below.

- Visit the IDX website to enroll: <u>https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</u>.
- Provide your unique enrollment code located at the top of your letter.
- Ensure that you enroll by July 29, 2022. Your unique activation code will not work after this date.

Additional Credit Safety Tips

We encourage all individuals to always actively monitor their credit for the possibility of fraud and identity theft by reviewing credit reports, and credit card, bank and other financial statements for unauthorized activity.

• **Fraud Alert:** Place a fraud alert on your account with the three credit bureaus listed below. This free service will automatically notify you before new accounts can be opened in your name, or before creditors can make changes to your existing accounts. You can activate fraud alerts by contacting any of the three nationwide credit bureaus listed below. The fraud alert will automatically be sent to the other two credit bureaus.

- o Transunion: PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016; 1-800-680-7289; <u>www.transunion.com</u>
- Equifax: PO Box 105069, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5069; 1-800-525-6285; <u>www.equifax.com</u>
- Experian: PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013; 1-888-397-3742; <u>www.experian.com</u>

• **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, contact each of the credit reporting agencies at the addresses below:

- Experian Security Freeze, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, <u>www.experian.com/freeze/center.html</u>.
- o TransUnion Security Freeze, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, <u>www.transunion.com/credit-freeze</u>.
- Equifax Security Freeze, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, <u>www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/</u>

To request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

• Full name

- Social Security number
- Date of birth
- If you have moved in the past five years, provide the addresses where you have lived over the prior five years
- Proof of current address, such as a utility bill
- A photocopy of a government issued ID
- 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

• It is always advisable to be vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by regularly reviewing all your account statements and monitoring free credit reports for unusual or unauthorized activity. You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every 12 months from each of the three credit reporting companies above. To order your annual free credit report, please visit <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u> or call toll free at 1-877-322-8228.

• Contact law enforcement immediately if you believe that your personal information has been fraudulently used.

• 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. Contact information for the Federal Trade Commission is as follows:

- Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Response Centre, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580
- FTC Identify Theft Hotline: 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338)
- FTC Identify Theft Website: <u>http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft</u>
- The Social Security Administration also maintains a fraud hotline at 1-800-269-0271.

• You can obtain additional information about the steps you can take to avoid identity theft from the following agencies. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them.

- **California Residents:** Visit the California Office of Privacy Protection (<u>www.oag.ca.gov/privacy</u>) for additional information on protection against identity theft.
- **Kentucky Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of Kentucky, 700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 118 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, <u>www.ag.ky.gov</u>, Telephone: 1-502-696-5300.
- **Maryland Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, Consumer Protection Division 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202, <u>www.oag.state.md.us/Consumer</u>, Telephone: 1-888-743-0023.
- **New York Residents:** The Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; <u>https://ag.ny.gov/</u>.
- North Carolina Residents: Office of the Attorney General of North Carolina, 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, <u>www.ncdoj.gov</u>, Telephone: 1-919-716-6400.
- **Oregon Residents:** Oregon Department of Justice, 1162 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-4096, <u>www.doj.state.or.us/</u>, Telephone: 877-877-9392
- **Rhode Island Residents:** Office of the Attorney General, 150 South Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, <u>www.riag.ri.gov</u>, Telephone: 401-274-4400
- All US Residents: Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580, <u>www.consumer.gov/idtheft</u>, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), TTY: 1-866-653-4261.