

## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE

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May 16, 2022



I am writing to notify you of an unauthorized acquisition of your personal information. The unauthorized individual who received your personal information, through no fault of their own, promptly reported the incident to the Department of Unemployment Assistance (DUA). Documents containing the information have since been removed from their online portal.

Attached is a notice required under Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 93H that describes your right to place a security freeze on your credit reports free of charge and provides related information.

Additionally, DUA is offering you credit monitoring services for 24 months through Experian's Identity Works at no cost to you. Please see the additional information provided at the end of this letter. If you wish to enroll in these services, you will need to do so by April 8, 2023, by visiting the Experian website (<a href="https://www.experianidworks.com/3bplus">https://www.experianidworks.com/3bplus</a>) and providing your activation code:

You will also need to provide the following Engagement

Number:

DUA places the utmost importance on protecting the confidentiality and security of all personal information in its custody. Accordingly, DUA regrets this incident, and we apologize for any concern it may give you.

If you have any questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to call me at (617) 626-5615.

Sincerely,

Paul Demakis Deputy Chief Counsel

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## MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAWS CHAPTER 93H NOTICE REQUIREMENTS

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.

You may also place a security freeze on your credit reports, free of charge. A security freeze prohibits a credit 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. Under federal law, you cannot be charged to place, lift, or remove a security freeze.

You must place your request for a freeze with each of the three major consumer reporting agencies: Equifax (www.equifax.com); Experian (www.experian.com); and TransUnion (www.transunion.com). To place a security freeze on your credit report, you may send a written request by regular, certified or overnight mail at the addresses below. You may also place a security freeze through each of the consumer reporting agencies' websites or over the phone, using the contact information below:

Equifax Security Freeze
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348
1-800-349-9960
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/

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

TransUnion Security Freeze
P.O. Box 160
Woodlyn, PA 19094
1-888-909-8872
https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze

In order to request a security freeze, you will need to provide some or all of the following information to the credit reporting agency, depending on whether you do so online, by phone, or by mail:

- 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 credit reporting agencies have one (1) to three (3) business days after receiving your request to place a security freeze on your credit report, based upon the method of your request. 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. It is important to maintain this PIN/password in a secure place, as you will need it to lift or remove the security freeze.

To lift the security freeze in order to allow a specific entity or individual access to your credit report, you must make a request to each of the credit reporting agencies by mail, through their website, or by phone (using the contact information above). You must provide proper identification (including name, address, and social security number) and the PIN number 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. You may also temporarily lift a security freeze for a specified period of time rather than for a specific entity or individual, using the same contact information above. The credit bureaus have between one (1) hour (for requests made online) and three (3) business days (for request made by mail) 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 make a request to each of the credit reporting agencies by mail, through their website, or by phone (using the contact information above). You must provide 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 between one (1) hour (for requests made online) and three (3) business days (for requests made by mail) after receiving your request to remove the security freeze.

## HOW TO ACTIVATE YOUR 24-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS MEMBERSHIP:

If you wish to enroll in these services, please activate your membership by following the steps below:

- Ensure that you enroll by the end date provided on the first page of the letter. (Your code will not work after this date.)
- Visit the Experian Identity Works website to enroll: https://www.experianidworks.com/3bplus
- Provide your activation code from the first page of the letter.

A credit card is not required for enrollment in Experian Identity Works.

You can contact Experian immediately regarding any fraud issues, and have access to the following features once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks:

- **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 Transumion files for indicators of fraud.
- Identity Restoration: Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
- Experian Identity Works Extend CARETM: You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian Identity Works membership has expired.
- ▼ Up to \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance\*\*: Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

If you believe there was fraudulent use of your information and would like to discuss how you may be able to resolve those issues, please reach out to an Experian agent at 1-877-890-9332. If, after discussing your situation with an agent, it is determined that Identity Restoration support is needed, then an Experian Identity Restoration agent is available to work with you to investigate and resolve each incident of fraud that occurred (including, as appropriate, helping you with contacting credit grantors to dispute charges and close accounts; assisting you in placing a freeze on your credit file with the three major credit bureaus; and assisting you with contacting government agencies to help restore your identity to its proper condition).

Please note that this Identity Restoration support is available to you for one year from the date of this letter and does not require any action on your part at this time. If you enroll in credit monitoring services, this support will be available to you for one year from your enrollment date. The Terms and Conditions for this offer are located at <a href="https://www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration">www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration</a>. You will also find self-help tips and information about identity protection at this site.

- \* 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.