

Abeles and Hoffman P.C.  
P.O. Box 3923  
Syracuse, NY 13220



9666 Olive Blvd.  
St. Louis, MO 63132  
314-991-4770



August 23, 2022

Re: Notice of a Data Security Incident

Dear [REDACTED],

At Abeles and Hoffman, we value transparency and respect the privacy of your information, which is why, as a precautionary measure, we are writing to let you know about a data security incident that involved some of your personal information. We want to notify you of the incident and let you know that your data might be affected.

*Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed regarding this incident. If you are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report and get the report. Further, you have the right to obtain a security freeze free of charge. Further, you have the right to obtain a security freeze on your credit report free of charge. A security freeze prohibits a credit reporting agency from releasing any information from a consumer's credit report without written authorization. To request a security freeze be placed on your credit report, please be prepared to provide any or all of the following: your full name, social security number, address(es), date of birth, a copy of a government issued identification card, a copy of a utility bill, bank or insurance information, or anything else the credit reporting agency needs to place the security freeze. Further information regarding credit freezes, including the contact information for the credit reporting agencies, may be found in the "Other Important Information" included with this letter.*

In response to the incident, we are providing you with access to the following services:

Representatives are available for 90 days from the date of this letter, to assist you with questions regarding this incident, between the hours of [REDACTED]. Please call the help line [REDACTED] and supply the fraud specialist with your unique code listed below. To extend these services, enrollment in the monitoring services described below is required.

Further, we are providing you with access to Single Bureau Credit Monitoring/Single Bureau Credit Report/Single Bureau Credit Score\* services at no charge. These services provide you with alerts for 24 months from the date of enrollment when changes occur to your credit file. This notification is sent to you the same day that the change or update takes place with the bureau. Finally, we are providing you with proactive fraud assistance to help with any questions that you might have or in the event that you become a victim of fraud. These services will be provided by Cyberscout through Identity Force, a company specializing in fraud assistance and remediation services.

To enroll in Credit Monitoring\* services at no charge, please log on to [REDACTED] and follow the instructions provided. When prompted please provide the following unique code to receive services: [REDACTED]

In order for you to receive the monitoring services described above, you must enroll within 90 days from the date of this letter.

We sincerely regret this incident occurred and for any concern it may cause. We understand that you may have questions about it beyond what is covered in this letter. If you have additional questions, please contact [REDACTED] by calling [REDACTED] or writing to us at 9666 [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Sincerely yours,

Justin Reppy, Principal

\* Services marked with an "\*" require an internet connection and e-mail account and may not be available to minors under the age of 18 years of age. Please note that when signing up for monitoring services, you may be asked to verify personal information for your own protection to confirm your identity.

## **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

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

Whether or not you choose to use the complimentary 24-month credit monitoring services, we recommend that you place an initial one (1) 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 one 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 105069  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5069  
<https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts/>  
(800) 525-6285

#### ***Experian***

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
<https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html>  
(888) 397-3742

#### ***TransUnion***

Fraud Victim Assistance Department  
P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016-2000  
<https://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts>  
(800) 680-7289

### **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 all three nationwide credit reporting companies at the numbers below and following the stated directions or by sending a request in writing, by mail, to all three credit reporting companies:

#### ***Equifax Security Freeze***

P.O. Box 105788  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788  
<https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/>  
(888) 298-0045

#### ***Experian Security Freeze***

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
<http://experian.com/freeze>  
(888) 397-3742

#### ***TransUnion Security Freeze***

P.O. Box 160  
Woodlyn, PA 19094  
<https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze>  
(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 you do place a security freeze *prior* to enrolling in the credit monitoring service as described above, you will need to remove the freeze in order to sign up for the credit monitoring service. After you sign up for the credit monitoring service, you may refreeze your credit file.

### **Obtaining a Free Credit Report.**

Under federal law, you are entitled to one free credit report every 12 months from each of the above three major nationwide credit reporting companies. Call **1-877-322-8228** or request your free credit reports online at **[www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)**. 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.

### **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 [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft), 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 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.

**Massachusetts Residents:** Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed regarding this incident. If you or the above-named individual are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report and get the report. Further, you have the right to obtain a security freeze free of charge. Further, you have the right to obtain a security freeze on your credit report free of charge. A security freeze prohibits a credit reporting agency from releasing any information from a consumer's credit report without written authorization. To request a security freeze be placed on your credit report, please be prepared to provide any or all of the following: your full name, social security number, address(es), date of birth, a copy of a government issued identification card, a copy of a utility bill, bank or insurance information, or anything else the credit reporting agency needs to place the security freeze. Further information regarding credit freezes, including the contact information for the credit reporting agencies, may be found in the information stated-above.