# AnnuityRateWatch.com, Inc

Return Mail Processing PO Box 999 Suwanee, GA 30024

> > June 5, 2023

### **RE: NOTICE OF DATA BREACH**

Dear Sample A. Sample:

AnnuityRateWatch.com, Inc. ("AnnuityRateWatch") is contacting you regarding an incident that could affect some of your personal information.

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 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. However, please be aware that placing a security freeze on a credit report may delay, interfere with, or prevent the timely approval of any requests made 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. 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; and
- 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.

As a precaution, we are offering you, at our expense, **identity protection services for 2 years.** Details regarding the service and how to enroll are provided below.

To help protect your identity, we are offering complimentary access to Experian IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup> for 24 months.

If you believe there was fraudulent use of your information as a result of this incident and would like to discuss how you may be able to resolve those issues, please reach out to an Experian agent. 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 from the date of the incident (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 Identity Restoration is available to you for 24 months from the date of this letter and does not require any action on your part at this time. The Terms and Conditions for this offer are located at www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration.

While identity restoration assistance is <u>immediately available to you</u>, we also encourage you to activate the fraud detection tools available through Experian IdentityWorks as a complimentary 24-month membership. This product provides you with superior identity detection and resolution of identity theft. To start monitoring your personal information, please follow the steps below:

- Ensure that you enroll by August 31, 2023 (Your code will not work after this date.)
- Visit the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: www.experianidworks.com/credit
- Provide your activation code: ABCDEFGHI

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with Identity Restoration that arose as a result of this incident, or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at **(833)** 420 2879 by August 31, 2023. Be prepared to provide engagement number **B092475** as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.

## ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 24-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS MEMBERSHIP

A credit card is not required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks. 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 file for indicators of fraud.
- **Identity Restoration:** Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARE**<sup>TM</sup>: 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.

We regret this incident occurred and any inconvenience it may cause you, and encourage you to take advantage of the Experian services. If you have further questions or concerns, or would like an alternative to enrolling online, please call **(833) 420 2879** toll-free Monday through Friday from 8 am – 10 pm Central, or Saturday and Sunday from 10 am – 7 pm Central (excluding major U.S. holidays). Be prepared to provide your engagement number **B092475.** 

Sincerely,

Mark Legan, CEO AnnuityRateWatch.com, Inc.

<sup>\*</sup> Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling.

<sup>\*\*</sup> 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.

#### **ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

The following provides additional information and actions that you can consider taking to help protect your information. You may also contact the U.S. Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"), the credit reporting agencies, or your state's regulatory authority to obtain additional information about avoiding identity theft, including information about fraud alerts and security freezes, as further detailed below. Contact Information for the Federal Trade Commission and credit reporting agencies is set forth below:

#### The Federal Trade Commission

600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338)

TTY: 1-866-653-4261 www.ftc.gov/idtheft

# **Credit Reporting Agencies**

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
PO Box 740241	PO Box 4500	PO Box 2000
Atlanta, GA 30374	Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19016
1-800-525-6285	1-888-397-3742	1-800-680-7289
www.equifax.com	www.experian.com	www.transunion.com

Order Your Free Annual Credit Report. You can order your free annual credit report online at <a href="https://www.annualcreditregort.com">www.annualcreditregort.com</a>. by phone (toll free) at 877-322-8228, or by mail by submitting a completed Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281. You can download a copy of the request form on the FTC website: <a href="https://www.ftc.gov">www.ftc.gov</a>. You can also visit the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's website for more information on how you can obtain your credit report for free: <a href="https://www.consumerfinance.gov">www.consumerfinance.gov</a>. Once you receive your credit reports, review them carefully for any 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 agency.

Review Your Accounts and Report Unauthorized Activity. We recommend you remain vigilant with respect to reviewing your account statements and credit reports, and promptly report any suspicious activity or suspected identity theft to the proper law enforcement authorities, including local law enforcement, your state's attorney general, and/or the FTC. Carefully review your credit reports and bank, credit card, and other account statements. Be proactive and create alerts on credit cards and bank accounts to notify you of activity. If you discover unauthorized or suspicious activity on your credit report or by any other means, file an identity theft report with your local police and contact a credit reporting company. You may also consider filing or obtaining a police report.

Consider Placing a Fraud Alert on Your Credit File. To protect yourself from potential identity theft, you may consider placing a fraud alert on your credit file. A fraud alert is intended to make it more difficult for someone to open a new credit account in your name. A fraud alert indicates to an entity requesting your credit file that you suspect you are a victim of fraud. When you or someone else attempts to open a credit account in your name, increase the credit limit on an existing account, or obtain a new card on an existing account, the alert notifies the entity to take steps to verify your identity. You may contact one of the credit reporting agencies listed above for assistance.

Consider Placing a Security Freeze on Your Credit File. You also may consider implementing a security freeze (also called a "credit freeze"). Placing a freeze on your credit report restricts access to your credit report and will prevent lenders and others from accessing your credit report entirely. This means you (or others) will not be able to open a new credit account while the freeze is in place. You can temporarily lift the credit freeze if you need to apply for new credit. With a security freeze in place, you may be required to take special steps when you wish to apply for any type of credit. You may contact one of the credit reporting agencies listed above for assistance.

Remain Vigilant and Lookout for Phishing Schemes. We also encourage you to remain vigilant in managing and handling your personal information and be on the lookout for suspicious emails, such as phishing schemes. Phishing schemes are attempts by criminals to steal personal information, including credit card numbers and social security numbers, over email. These attempts are often made by manipulating an email to make it look as if it came from a legitimate source, but which is actually sent by a fraudulent impersonator. Pay particular attention to anyone asking you to click on a link or attachment, especially if the email requests sensitive information, and pay close attention to the email address (e.g., look for misspellings). It is also important that you check the recipient's email address when replying to emails to ensure it is legitimate. Also consider taking steps such as carrying only essential documents with you, being aware of how and with whom you are sharing your personal information, and shredding receipts, statements, and other sensitive information once you no longer need them.

**For Massachusetts Residents:** You have the right to obtain a police report and to request a security freeze as described above. The credit reporting agencies may require certain personal information (e.g., name, Social Security number, date of birth, address) and valid identification (e.g., government-issued ID and proof of address, paystub or statement) in order to implement your request for a security freeze. There is no fee for requesting, temporarily lifting, or permanently removing a security freeze with any of the consumer reporting agencies.