

30867

To Enroll, Scan the QR Code Below:

To Enroll, Scan the QR Code Below:

Or Visit:

https://response.idx.us/synergybank

October 25, 2023

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>
<<Address1>>
<<Address2>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>>

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

Synergy Bank ("Synergy") is writing to inform you of a recent incident at a third-party service provider, First National Bankers Bank ("FNBB"), that may involve some of your personal information including your name in combination with the following: your << Data Variable>>.

We are reviewing and updating our vendor engagement polices. In addition, we are offering identity theft protection services through IDX, A ZeroFox Company, the data breach and recovery services expert. IDX identity protection services include: 24 months of credit and CyberScan monitoring, a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed id theft recovery services. With this protection, IDX will help you resolve issues if your identity is compromised.

We encourage you to remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements and credit reports for any unauthorized activity over the next 12 to 24 months. If you see unauthorized charges or activity, please contact the appropriate financial institution immediately.

We regret that this occurred and apologize for any inconvenience this incident may have caused. If you have any questions, please call 1-888-861-9186, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Central Time.

Sincerely,

Rusty Bourg

Vice President of Operations



## **Recommended Steps to help Protect your Information**

- 1. **Website and Enrollment**. Scan the QR image or go to <a href="https://response.idx.us/synergybank">https://response.idx.us/synergybank</a> and follow the instructions for enrollment using your Enrollment Code provided at the top of the letter.
- 2. **Activate the credit monitoring** provided as part of your IDX identity protection membership. The monitoring included in the membership must be activated to be effective. Note: You must have established credit and access to a computer and the internet to use this service. The deadline to enroll is January 25, 2024. If you need assistance, IDX will be able to assist you.
- 3. **Telephone**. Contact IDX at 1-888-861-9186 to gain additional information about this event and speak with knowledgeable representatives about the appropriate steps to take to protect your credit identity.

## ADDITIONAL STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

We remind you it is always advisable to be vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing your account statements and free credit reports for any unauthorized activity over the next 12 to 24 months. You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies. To order your annual free credit report, please visit <a href="www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a> or call toll free at 1-877-322-8228. Contact information for the three nationwide credit reporting companies is as follows:

Equifax, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, <a href="www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>, 1-800-378-4329 Experian, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, <a href="www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>, 1-888-397-3742 TransUnion, PO Box 1000, Chester, PA 19016, <a href="www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>, 1-800-916-8800

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. You should also contact your local law enforcement authorities and file a police report. Obtain a copy of the police report in case you are asked to provide copies to creditors to correct your records. Contact information for the Federal Trade Commission is as follows:

Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), <a href="https://www.identitytheft.gov">www.identitytheft.gov</a>

## Fraud Alerts and Credit or Security Freezes:

**Fraud Alerts:** There are two types of general fraud alerts you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud—an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for one year. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft with the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years.

To place a fraud alert on your credit reports, contact one of the nationwide credit bureaus. A fraud alert is free. The credit bureau you contact must tell the other two, and all three will place an alert on their versions of your report.

For those in the military who want to protect their credit while deployed, an Active Duty Military Fraud Alert lasts for one year and can be renewed for the length of your deployment. The credit bureaus will also take you off their marketing lists for pre-screened credit card offers for two years, unless you ask them not to.

Credit or Security Freezes: You have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, free of charge, which makes it more difficult for identity thieves to open new accounts in your name. That's because most creditors need to see your credit report before they approve a new account. If they can't see your report, they may not extend the credit.

How do I place a freeze on my credit reports? There is no fee to place or lift a security freeze. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a security freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. For information and instructions to place a security freeze, contact each of the credit reporting agencies at the addresses below:

Experian Security Freeze, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, <a href="www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>
TransUnion Security Freeze, PO Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094, <a href="www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>
Equifax Security Freeze, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, <a href="www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>

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 bureau will provide you with 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.

How do I lift a freeze? A freeze remains in place until you ask the credit bureau to temporarily lift it or remove it altogether. If the request is made online or by phone, a credit bureau must lift a freeze within one hour. If the request is made by mail, then the bureau must lift the freeze no later than three business days after getting your request.

If you opt for a temporary lift because you are applying for credit or a job, and you can find out which credit bureau the business will contact for your file, you can save some time by lifting the freeze only at that particular credit bureau. Otherwise, you need to make the request with all three credit bureaus.

Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to file and obtain a copy of a police report. You also have the right to request a security freeze, as described above. You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General*, One Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02108, 1-617-727-8400, www.mass.gov/ago/contact-us.html