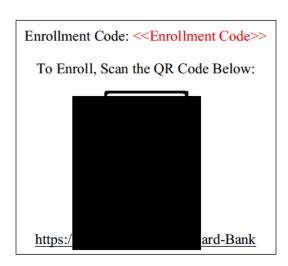


P.O. Box 989728 West Sacramento, CA 95798-9728





November 17, 2023

Subject: Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>:

I am writing to inform you of a data security incident that may have affected your personal information. At Forward Bank, we take the privacy and security of personal information very seriously. This is why we are informing you of the incident, providing you with steps you can take to protect your personal information, and offering you complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services.

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.

Massachusetts law also allows consumers to place a security freeze on their credit reports. A security freeze prohibits a consumer 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.

To place a security freeze on your credit report, you must send a written request to each of the three major consumer reporting agencies:

Equifax Security Freeze: P.O. Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, 1-800-685-1111, www.equifax.com

Experian Security Freeze: P.O. Box 9701, Allen, TX 75013, 1-888-397-3742,

www.experian.com/freeze/center.html

TransUnion Security Freeze: P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA, 19016, 1-888-909-8872, freeze.transunion.com

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

- 1. Full name and any suffixes;
- 2. Social Security Number;
- 3. Date of birth;
- 4. If you have moved in the past five years, provide the addresses where you have lived over the prior five years;
- 5. Proof of current address such as a current utility bill or telephone bill;
- 6. A legible photocopy of a government issued identification card (state driver's license or ID card, military identification, etc.);
- 7. 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 consumer reporting agencies have three (3) business days after receiving your request to place a security freeze on your credit report. 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.

To lift the security freeze in order to allow a specific entity or individual access to your credit report, you must call or send a request to the consumer reporting agencies and include proper identification (name, address, and Social Security Number) and the PIN 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 or the specific period of time you want the credit report available. The consumer reporting agencies have three (3) business days 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 send a request to each of the three consumer reporting agencies and include proper identification (name, address, and Social Security Number) and the PIN or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze. The consumer reporting agencies have three (3) business days after receiving your request to remove the security freeze. No fee is required to any of the consumer reporting agencies to place, lift or remove a security freeze.

In order to determine whether any unauthorized credit was obtained with your information, you may obtain a copy of your credit report at www.annualcreditreport.com or 1-877-322-8228. You may also request information on how to place a fraud alert by contacting any of the above consumer reporting agencies. A fraud alert is intended to alert you if someone attempts to obtain credit in your name without your consent. It is recommended that you remain vigilant for any incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and your credit report for unauthorized activity. You may also contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to learn more about how to prevent identity theft:

FTC, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20580, www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338)

As part of our commitment to protecting our customers, we are offering you complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services through IDX, A ZeroFox Company, a 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 information is compromised.

We encourage you to contact IDX with any questions and to enroll in the free identity protection services by calling 1-888-796-4226, going to https://response.idx.us/Forward-Bank, and using the Enrollment Code provided above. IDX representatives are available Monday through Friday from 8 am - 8 pm Central Time. Please note the deadline to enroll is February 17, 2024. In addition, Forward Bank recommends that all customers remain vigilant of any communications that appear to come from Forward Bank. For best practices on privacy and security tips, please visit https://www.forward.bank/resources/security-tips/.

If you have questions or need assistance, please call 1-888-796-4226 Monday through Friday from 8 am - 8 pm Central Time. We take your trust in us and this matter very seriously.

Forward Bank takes data privacy and security very seriously. Please accept our sincere apologies for any worry or inconvenience this may cause.

Sincerely,

Bill Sennholz, CEO

Forward Bank 1001 N. Central Ave. Marshfield, Wisconsin 54449