

<< Date>> (Format: Month Day, Year)

<<MemberFirstName>> <<MemberMiddleName>> <<MemberLastName>> <<Suffix>> <<Address1>> <<Address2>> <<City>>, <<State>> <<ZipCode>>

Re: Notice of Data Breach

Dear << MemberFirstName>> << MemberLastName>>,

With regret, Blauer Manufacturing Co. ("Blauer") writes to inform you of a recent event in which unauthorized third parties likely compromised some of your personal information, including credit card information, when you ordered merchandise from us. This letter provides you with a summary of the breach of security in issue, our response and additional steps that you may take to better protect yourself against the risk of identity theft and fraud.

What Happened? On September 25, 2018, Blauer discovered that unknown intruders had installed malicious software ("malware") in a part of the online platform at www.blauer.com (Blauer.com) that handles online retail orders. Blauer took steps the same day to disable the malware. We also promptly retained outside forensic investigators to evaluate that malware, its duration and its operation. On October 30, 2018, based on the outside investigators' findings, Blauer determined that the malware had been installed by unknown intruders on September 13, 2018, and had remained active until September 25, 2018. While the malware was active, if a retail customer submitted an online checkout form into which he or she had typed his or her credit card information, all of the details entered into the form would be transmitted to the intruders at the same time as the customer's card details were sent to Blauer's payment processor and other order details were sent to Blauer. The investigation indicates that between September 13, 2018 and September 25, 2018, the malware's reprogramming likely worked as the intruders had intended.

What Information Was Involved? It is likely that the malware installed by the intruders enabled them to acquire the credit card account number and credit verification (CV) code included in a retail order that you submitted to Blauer. com sometime between September 13, 2018 and September 25, 2018. Ordinarily, only our outside payment processor receives customer-supplied card information and only it can store that data and then only with your advance consent. The malware implanted by the intruders was designed to circumvent those controls, however. Upon detecting that the form contained a manually-entered card number and CV code, the malware likely caused the form to transmit to the intruders all of your order's details, including the credit card information.

What We Are Doing. We take this incident and the security of your personal information seriously. Upon discovering the malware, we immediately took steps to disable it. Moreover, as a follow-up to the outside forensic investigation and as part of our ongoing commitment to the privacy of personal information in our care, we have examined and continue to assess our systems, policies and procedures, have implemented additional safeguards and are evaluating still more. We are also notifying state regulators, as required. As an added precaution, we also are offering complimentary access to 12 months of identity monitoring, fraud consultation and identity theft restoration services through Kroll.

What You Can Do. You can find out more about how to protect against potential identity theft and fraud in the enclosed Steps You Can Take to Prevent Fraud and Identity Theft. There you will also find more information on the identity monitoring services we are offering and how to enroll.

**For More Information.** We understand that you may have questions about this incident that are not addressed in this letter. If you have additional questions, please call our dedicated assistance line at 1-866-775-4209, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time. Please have your Kroll membership number ready. This number can be found below. You may also write me in care of Blauer Manufacturing Co., 20 Aberdeen St, Boston, MA 02215.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern this incident has caused.

Sincerely,

Michael Blauer President

# STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO BETTER PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

We have secured the services of Kroll to provide identity monitoring at no cost to you for 12 months. Kroll is a global leader in risk mitigation and response, and their team has extensive experience helping people who have sustained an unintentional exposure of confidential data. Your identity monitoring services include Credit Monitoring, a Current Credit Report, Web Watcher, Public Persona, Quick Cash Scan, \$1 Million Identity Fraud Loss Reimbursement, Fraud Consultation, and Identity Theft Restoration.

Visit krollbreach.idMonitoringService.com to activate and take advantage of your identity monitoring services.

You have until March 31, 2019 to activate your identity monitoring services.

Membership Number: << Member ID>>

To receive credit services by mail instead of online, please call 1-844-263-8605. Additional information describing your services is included with this letter.

We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity. Under U.S. law you are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus. To order your free credit report, visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also contact the three major credit bureaus directly to request a free copy of your credit report.

You have the right to place a "security freeze" on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization. The security freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a security freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a security freeze on your credit report. Should you wish to place a security freeze, please contact the major consumer reporting agencies listed below:

Experian	TransUnion
P.O. Box 9554	P.O. Box 2000
Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19016
1-888-397-3742	1-800-909-8872
www.experian.com/freeze/	www.transunion.com/
center.html	credit-freeze

Equifax
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788
1-800-685-1111
www.equifax.com/personal/
credit-report-services

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

- 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, 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.

As an alternative to a security freeze, you have the right to place an initial or extended "fraud alert" on your file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is placed on a consumer's credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer's credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer's identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one of the agencies listed below:

Experian	TransUnion	Equifax
P.O. Box 2002	P.O. Box 2000	P.O. Box 105069
Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19106	Atlanta, GA 30348
1-888-397-3742	1-800-680-7289	1-888-766-0008
www.experian.com/fraud/	www.transunion.com/fraud-victim-	www.equifax.com/personal/
center.html	resource/place-fraud-alert	credit-report-services

Although we have no reason to believe that your personal information has been used to file fraudulent tax returns, you can contact the IRS at www.irs.gov/Individuals/Identity-Protection for helpful information and guidance on steps you can take to address a fraudulent tax return filed in your name and what to do if you become the victim of such fraud. You can also visit www.irs.gov/uac/Taxpayer-Guide-to-Identity-Theft for more information.

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps you can take to protect yourself, by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General.

The Federal Trade Commission can be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, www. identitytheft.gov, 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. You can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. You have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and your state Attorney General. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

For North Carolina residents, the Attorney General can be contacted at 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6400, www.ncdoj.gov.

For Maryland residents, the Attorney General can be contacted at 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023, www.oag.state.md.us.

For New Mexico residents, you have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in your credit file has been used against you, the right to know what is in your credit file, the right to ask for your credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to your file is limited; you must give your consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; you may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report; and you may seek damages from violator. You may have additional rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act not summarized here. Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have specific additional rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage you to review your rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\_cfpb\_summary\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf, or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

**For Rhode Island Residents:** The Rhode Island Attorney General can be reached at: 150 South Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, www.riag.ri.gov, 1-401-247-4400. Under Rhode Island law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. There are four Rhode Island resident individuals impacted by this incident.



### TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR IDENTITY MONITORING SERVICES

You've been provided with access to the following services<sup>1</sup> from Kroll:

# Triple Bureau Credit Monitoring and Single Bureau Credit Report

Your current credit report is available for you to review. You will also receive alerts when there are changes to your credit data at any of the three national credit bureaus—for instance, when a new line of credit is applied for in your name. If you do not recognize the activity, you'll have the option to call a Kroll fraud specialist, who can help you determine if it's an indicator of identity theft.

#### **Web Watcher**

Web Watcher monitors internet sites where criminals may buy, sell, and trade personal identity information. An alert will be generated if evidence of your personal identity information is found.

#### **Public Persona**

Public Persona monitors and notifies when names, aliases, and addresses become associated with your Social Security number. If information is found, you'll receive an alert.

#### **Quick Cash Scan**

Quick Cash Scan monitors short-term and cash-advance loan sources. You'll receive an alert when a loan is reported, and you can call a Kroll fraud specialist for more information.

## \$1 Million Identity Fraud Loss Reimbursement

Reimburses you for out-of-pocket expenses totaling up to \$1 million in covered legal costs and expenses for any one stolen identity event. All coverage is subject to the conditions and exclusions in the policy.

### **Fraud Consultation**

You have unlimited access to consultation with a Kroll fraud specialist. Support includes showing you the most effective ways to protect your identity, explaining your rights and protections under the law, assistance with fraud alerts, and interpreting how personal information is accessed and used, including investigating suspicious activity that could be tied to an identity theft event.

## **Identity Theft Restoration**

If you become a victim of identity theft, an experienced Kroll licensed investigator will work on your behalf to resolve related issues. You will have access to a dedicated investigator who understands your issues and can do most of the work for you. Your investigator can dig deep to uncover the scope of the identity theft, and then work to resolve it.

<sup>1</sup> Kroll's activation website is only compatible with the current version or one version earlier of Internet Explorer, Chrome, Firefox, and Safari. To receive credit services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file.