

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

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<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>
<<Address1>>
<<Address2>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>>
<<Country>>
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July 22, 2024

## Notice of Data << Breach/Security Incident>>

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

Surgery Center of Mid Florida ("SCOMF") respects the privacy of your information and values the trust you place in us, which is why we are writing to advise you of an incident that may affect your personal information. Although we are unaware of any actual or attempted misuse of your personal information, we would like to provide you with information about the incident, steps taken since discovering the incident, and what you can do to better protect against potential harm arising from the incident, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

What Happened? On or about February 21, 2024, SCOMF experienced a network encryption event. Upon discovering unusual activity on its networks, SCOMF began an investigation, which involved the assistance of cybersecurity experts, to determine the nature and scope of the incident. The investigation determined unauthorized users were able to access SCOMF's network through SCOMF's IT vendor. SCOMF's IT vendor was hacked first and then the unauthorized user exploited the connection between SCOMF and its vendor's network to attack SCOMF's systems directly.

What Information Was Involved? Although there is no evidence that any specific patient information was accessed or exfiltrated as a result of this incident, SCOMF is notifying all patients in an abundance of caution. Personal information contained on SCOMF's network varies from individual to individual, but may have included patient demographic information, such as names, address, dates of birth; health information, such as medical history, diagnoses, treatments, dates of service; health insurance information, such as account numbers, insurance policy numbers, billing and claims information; and financial account information, including Social Security numbers.

What We Are Doing. SCOMF values your privacy and takes the security of our systems very seriously. As such, we have transferred our business to a different IT vendor and have implemented additional safeguards to improve data security on our web server infrastructure and to prevent recurrence of a similar attack. SCOMF has replaced and enhanced all firewalls and has transitioned all data to a secure, cloud-based electronic health record system and practice management software. SCOMF is also notifying certain federal and state regulators as required by law.

What You Can Do. Again, at this time, there is no evidence that your information has been misused. However, we encourage you to monitor your account statements and credit reports. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained. You should also report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incident of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, your state attorney general, and/or the Federal Trade Commission.

We also encourage you to contact IDX, the data breach and recovery services experts, with any questions. Please call the toll-free inquiry line at 1-888-974-9414. IDX representatives are available Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 9:00 pm EST.

SCOMF deeply regrets any concern or inconvenience this incident may cause. We continue to evaluate our system to assess and address the risk of a similar incident occurring in the future.

Sincerely,

Migdalia Sanes Administrator Surgery Center of Mid Florida

(Enclosure)



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

- 1. Website and Enrollment. Go to <a href="https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect">https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</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. If you need assistance, IDX will be able to assist you.
- **3. Telephone.** Contact IDX at 1-888-974-9414 to gain additional information about this event and speak with knowledgeable representatives about the appropriate steps to take to protect your credit identity.
- **4. Review your credit reports**. We recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring credit reports. Under federal law, you also are entitled every 12 months to one free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting companies. To obtain a free annual credit report, go to <a href="https://www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a> or call 1-877-322-8228. You may wish to stagger your requests so that you receive a free report by one of the three credit bureaus every four months.

If you discover any suspicious items and have enrolled in IDX identity protection, notify them immediately by calling or by logging into the IDX website and filing a request for help.

If you file a request for help or report suspicious activity, you will be contacted by a member of our ID Care team who will help you determine the cause of the suspicious items. In the unlikely event that you fall victim to identity theft as a consequence of this incident, you will be assigned an ID Care Specialist who will work on your behalf to identify, stop and reverse the damage quickly.

You should also know that you have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity fraud. Please note that in order to file a crime report or incident report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some kind of proof that you have been a victim. A police report is often required to dispute fraudulent items. You can report suspected incidents of identity theft to local law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

**5. Place Fraud Alerts** with the three credit bureaus. If you choose to place a fraud alert, we recommend you do this after activating your credit monitoring. You can place a fraud alert at one of the three major credit bureaus by phone and also via Experian's or Equifax's website. A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you, before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit. The contact information for all three bureaus is as follows:

## **Credit Bureaus**

Equifax Fraud Reporting
1-866-349-5191
1-888-397-3742
P.O. Box 105069
Atlanta, GA 30348-5069
www.equifax.com
Experian Fraud Reporting
1-888-397-3742
1-800-680-7289
P.O. Box 2000
P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19022-2000
www.transunion.com

It is necessary to contact only ONE of these bureaus and use only ONE of these methods. As soon as one of the three bureaus confirms your fraud alert, the others are notified to place alerts on their records as well. You will receive confirmation letters in the mail and will then be able to order all three credit reports, free of charge, for your review. An initial fraud alert will last for one year.

Please Note: No one is allowed to place a fraud alert on your credit report except you.

**6. Security Freeze.** By placing a security freeze, someone who fraudulently acquires your personal identifying information will not be able to use that information to open new accounts or borrow money in your name. You will need

to contact the three national credit reporting bureaus listed above to place the freeze. Keep in mind that when you place the freeze, you will not be able to borrow money, obtain instant credit, or get a new credit card until you temporarily lift or permanently remove the freeze. There is no cost to freeze or unfreeze your credit files.

**7. You can obtain additional information** about the steps you can take to avoid identity theft from the following agencies. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them.

**California Residents:** Visit the California Office of Privacy Protection (<a href="www.oag.ca.gov/privacy">www.oag.ca.gov/privacy</a>) for additional information on protection against identity theft. Office of the Attorney General of California, 1300 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, Telephone: 1-800-952-5225.

**Kentucky Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of Kentucky, 700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 118 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, www.ag.ky.gov, Telephone: 1-502-696-5300.

**Maryland Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, Consumer Protection Division 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202, <a href="https://www.oag.state.md.us/Consumer">www.oag.state.md.us/Consumer</a>, Telephone: 1-888-743-0023.

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 a 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. You can review your rights Fair Credit Reporting pursuant to the Act bv 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.

**New York Residents:** the Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; <a href="https://ag.ny.gov/">https://ag.ny.gov/</a>.

**North Carolina Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of North Carolina, Consume Protection Divisions, 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, <a href="www.ncdoj.gov">www.ncdoj.gov</a>, Telephone: 1-919-716-6400.

**Oregon Residents:** Oregon Department of Justice, 1162 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-4096, www.doj.state.or.us/, Telephone: 1-877-877-9392

**Rhode Island Residents:** Office of the Attorney General, 150 South Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, www.riag.ri.gov, Telephone: 1-401-274-4400

**All US Residents:** Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580, <a href="https://consumer.ftc.gov">https://consumer.ftc.gov</a>, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), TTY: 1-866-653-4261.