

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

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

Enrollment Code: <<Enrollment Code>>

To Enroll, Scan the QR Code Below:

SCAN ME

On Wigits

Or Visit: http://response.idx.us/prospectmedical

September 29, 2023

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

Prospect Medical Holdings, Inc. ("Prospect Medical") is committed to protecting the confidentiality and security of the information we maintain. We are writing to let you know about a data security incident that involved some of your information. This letter explains the incident, measures that have been taken, and some steps you can take in response.

On August 1, 2023, Prospect Medical learned of a data security incident that disrupted the operations of some of our IT systems. We immediately took steps to secure our systems, contain the incident, and notify law enforcement. Additionally, a third-party forensic firm to conduct an investigation.

Through our ongoing investigation, on September 13, 2023, we determined that an unauthorized party gained access to our IT network between the dates of July 31, 2023 and August 3, 2023. While in our IT network, the unauthorized party accessed and/or acquired files that contain information pertaining to certain Prospect Medical patients. Our investigation concluded that some of these files contained your information, such as your name, <\Variable Text>>.

We are notifying you of this incident to assure you that we take it seriously. We have arranged for you to receive credit monitoring and identity protection services through the company IDX at no cost to you. These identity protection services include one-year of credit and CyberScan monitoring, a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed identity theft recovery services. These services are completely free to you, and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score. For more information on the services, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary one-year membership, please visit http://response.idx.us/prospectmedical or call 1-888-979-0012 or scan the QR image and use the Enrollment Code provided above. Please note the deadline to enroll is December 29, 2023. For more information on identity protection as well as some additional steps you can take in response, please see the pages that follow this letter.

We deeply regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause and take this matter seriously. To help prevent something like this from happening again, we have implemented, and will continue to adopt, additional safeguards and technical security measures to further protect and monitor our systems. If you have any questions about this incident, please call 1-888-979-0012, Monday through Friday, 6:00 am – 6:00 pm, Pacific Time (excluding major U.S. holidays).

Sincerely,

Don Kreitz SVP Southern California Hospitals

IDX IDENTITY PROTECTION

- 1. Website and Enrollment. Scan the QR image or go to http://response.idx.us/prospectmedical and follow the instructions for enrollment using your Enrollment Code provided at the top of the letter. The enrollment deadline is December 29, 2023.
- **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 1-888-979-0012 to gain additional information about this event and speak with knowledgeable representatives about the appropriate steps to take to protect your credit identity.

IDX Identity will include one-year enrollments into the following service components:

SINGLE BUREAU CREDIT MONITORING (adults*) - Monitoring of credit bureau for changes to the member's credit file such as new credit inquires, new accounts opened, delinquent payments, improvements in the member's credit report, bankruptcies, court judgments and tax liens, new addresses, new employers, and other activities that affect the member's credit record.

CYBERSCANTM - Dark Web monitoring of underground websites, chat rooms, and malware, 24/7, to identify trading or selling of personal information like SSNs, bank accounts, email addresses, medical ID numbers, driver's license numbers, passport numbers, credit and debit cards, phone numbers, and other unique identifiers.

IDENTITY THEFT INSURANCE - Identity theft insurance will reimburse members for expenses associated with restoring their identity should they become a victim of identity theft. If a member's identity is compromised, the policy provides coverage for up to \$1,000,000, with no deductible, from an A.M. Best "A-rated" carrier. Coverage is subject to the terms, limits, and/or exclusions of the policy.

FULLY MANAGED IDENTITY RECOVERY – IDX's fully managed recovery service provides restoration for identity theft issues such as (but not limited to): account creation, criminal identity theft, medical identity theft, account takeover, rental application, tax fraud, benefits fraud, and utility creation. This service includes a complete triage process for affected individuals who report suspicious activity, a personally assigned IDCare Specialist to fully manage restoration of each case, and expert guidance for those with questions about identity theft and protective measures.

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. 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 www.annualcreditreport.com 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, www.equifax.com, 1-800-685-1111 Experian, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742 TransUnion, PO Box 1000, Chester, PA 19016, www.experian.com, 1-800-888-4213

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), www.identitytheft.gov

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:

Equifax Security Freeze, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.com
Experian Security Freeze, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com
TransUnion Security Freeze, PO Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094, www.transunion.com

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.

Additional information for residents of the following states:

Maryland Residents: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *Maryland Attorney General's Office*, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023 / 1-410-576-6300, www.oag.state.md.us

New York Residents: You may contact and obtain information from these state agencies: *New York Department of State Division of Consumer Protection,* One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12231-0001, 518-474-8583 / 1-800-697-1220, http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection; and *New York State Office of the Attorney General,* The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341, 1-800-771-7755, https://ag.ny.gov

North Carolina Residents: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *North Carolina Attorney General's Office*, 9001 Mail Service Centre, Raleigh, NC 27699, 1-919-716-6000 / 1-877-566-7226, www.ncdoj.gov

Rhode Island Residents: Under Rhode Island 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: *Rhode Island Attorney General's Office*, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, 1-401-274-4400, www.riag.ri.gov

West Virginia Residents: You have the right to ask that nationwide consumer reporting agencies place "fraud alerts" in your file to let potential creditors and others know that you may be a victim of identity theft, as described above. You also have a right to place a security freeze on your credit report, as described above.

A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act: The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Your major rights under the FCRA are summarized below. For more information, including information about additional rights, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.

You have the right to know what is in your file.

You have the right to ask for a credit score.

You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.

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 reports to be provided to employers.

You may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.

You have a 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.

You may seek damages from violators.

Identity theft victims and active-duty military personnel have additional rights.

TAGLINES

English Tagline

ATTENTION: If you need help in your language call 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. Aids and services for people with disabilities, like documents in braille and large print, are also available. Call 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. These services are free of charge.

الشعار بالعربية (Arabic)

يُر جي الانتباه: إذا احتجت إلى المساعدة بلغتك، فاتصل بـ 3230-708-1-800

TTY: 711. تتوفر أيضًا المساعدات والخدمات للأشخاص ذوي الإعاقة، مثل المستندات المكتوبة بطريقة بريل والخط الكبير. اتصل بـ -800-1

708-3230

TTY: 711. هذه الخدمات مجانية.

Հայերեն պիտակ (Armenian)

ՈՒՇԱԴՐՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ։ Եթե Ձեզ օգնություն է հարկավոր Ձեր լեզվով, զանգահարեք 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711։ Կան նաև օժանդակ միջոցներ ու ծառայություններ հաշմանդամություն ունեցող անձանց համար, օրինակ` Բրայլի գրատիպով ու խոշորատառ տպագրված նյութեր։ Զանգահարեք 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711։ Այդ ծառայություններն անվճար են։

ឃ្មលាសម្មគាល់ជាភាសាខ្មមវែ (Cambodian)

ចំណាំ៖ បហីអុខក ត្រូវ ការជំនួយ ជាភាសា របស់អុខក សូម ទូរស័ព្ទទទៅលនេ 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711។ ជំនួយ និង សជាកម្ម សម្លាប់ ជនពិការ ដូចជាឯកសារសរសេជជាអកុសរផុស សម្លាប់ជនពិការកនកែ ប្រឯកសារសរសេជជាអកសពមពធំ ក៏អាចរកបានផងដម័។ ទះស័ពទមកលនេ 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711។ សជាកម្មទាំងនេះមិនគិតផលវិទ្យល័យ។

简体中文标语 (Simplified Chinese)

请注意:如果您需要以您的母语提供帮助,请致电 1-800-708-3230 TTY:

711。我们另外还提供针对残疾人士的帮助和服务,例如盲文和大字体阅读,提供您方便取用。请致电 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711。这些服务都是免费的。

مطلب به زبان فارسی (Farsi)

توجه: اگر میخواهید به زبان خود کمک دریافت کنید، با 711: TTY: 711 -800-708-1 تماس بگیرید. کمکها و خدمات مخصوص افراد دارای معلولیت، مانند نسخههای خط بریل و چاپ با حروف بزرگ، نیز موجود است. با 711: TTY: 708-708-1 تماس بگیرید. این خدمات رایگان

ارائه میشوند.

हृदिी टैगलाइन (Hindi)

ध्यान दें: अगर आपको अपनी भाषा में सहायता की आवश्यकता है तो 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711 पर कॉल करें। अशक्तता वाले लोगों के लिए सहायता और सेवाएं, जैसे ब्रेल और बड़े प्रिट में भी दस्तावेज़ उपलब्ध हैं। 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711 पर कॉल करें। ये सेवाएं नि:शुल्क हैं।

Nge Lus Hmoob Cob (Hmong)

CEEB TOOM: Yog koj xav tau kev pab txhais koj hom lus hu rau 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. Muaj cov kev pab txhawb thiab kev pab cuam rau cov neeg xiam oob qhab, xws li puav leej muaj ua cov ntawv su thiab luam tawm ua tus ntawv loj. Hu rau 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. Cov kev pab cuam no yog pab dawb xwb.

日本語表記 (Japanese)

注意日本語での対応が必要な場合は 1-800-708-3230 TTY:

711へお電話ください。点字の資料や文字の拡大表示など、障がいをお持ちの方のためのサービスも用意しています。 **1-800-708-3230 TTY**:

711へお電話ください。これらのサービスは無料で提供しています。

한국어 태그라인 (Korean)

유의사항: 귀하의 언어로 도움을 받고 싶으시면 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711 번으로 문의하십시오. 점자나 큰 활자로 된 문서와 같이 장애가 있는 분들을 위한 도움과 서비스도 이용 가능합니다. 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711 번으로 문의하십시오. 이러한 서비스는 무료로 제공됩니다.

ແທກໄລພາສາລາວ (Laotian)

ປະກາດ: ຖາ້ທານຕອ້ງການຄວາມຊວ່ຍເຫຼືອໃນພາສາຂອງທານໃຫໂທຫາເບ ີ 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. ຍັງມີຄວາມຊວ່ຍເຫຼືອແລະການບລໍ່ການສາລັບຄົນພິການ ເຊັນເອກະສານທີ່ເປັນອັກສອນນູແລະມີໂຕພິມໃຫຍ່ ໃຫໂທຫາເບ

1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. ການບລໍການເຫງຼົ່ນບີ້ຕໍ່ອ້າເສຍຄາ່ໃຊ້ຈາ່ຍໃດໆ.

Mien Tagline (Mien)

LONGC HNYOUV JANGX LONGX OC: Beiv taux meih qiemx longc mienh tengx faan benx meih nyei waac nor douc waac daaih lorx taux 1-800-708-3230

TTY: 711. Liouh lorx jauv-louc tengx aengx caux nzie gong bun taux ninh mbuo wuaaic fangx mienh, beiv taux longc benx nzangc-pokc bun hluo mbiutc aengx caux aamz mborqv benx domh sou se mbenc nzoih bun longc. Douc waac daaih lorx 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. Naaiv deix nzie weih gong-bou jauv-louc se benx wang-henh tengx mv zugc cuotv nyaanh oc.

ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਟੈਂਗਲਾਈਨ (Punjabi)

ਧਿਆਨ ਦਿੱਓ: ਜੇ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਮਦਦ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. ਅਪਾਹਜ ਲੋਕਾਂ ਲਈ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਅਤੇ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ, ਜਵਿੱ ਕਿ ਬ੍ਰੇਲ ਅਤੇ ਮੋਟੀ ਛਪਾਈ ਵਿੱਚ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼, ਵੀ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਹਨ। ਕਾਲ ਕਰੋ 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. ਇਹ ਸੇਵਾਵਾਂ ਮੁਫਤ ਹਨ।

Русский слоган (Russian)

ВНИМАНИЕ! Если вам нужна помощь на вашем родном языке, звоните по номеру 1-800-708-3230 линия ТТҮ: 711. Также предоставляются средства и услуги для людей с ограниченными возможностями, например документы крупным шрифтом или шрифтом Брайля. Звоните по номеру 1-800-708-3230 линия ТТҮ: 711. Такие услуги предоставляются бесплатно.

Mensaje en español (Spanish)

ATENCIÓN: si necesita ayuda en su idioma, llame al 1-800-708-3230

TTY: 711. También ofrecemos asistencia y servicios para personas con discapacidades, como documentos en braille y con letras grandes. Llame al 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. Estos servicios son gratuitos.

Tagalog Tagline (Tagalog)

ATENSIYON: Kung kailangan mo ng tulong sa iyong wika, tumawag sa 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. Mayroon ding mga tulong at serbisyo para sa mga taong may kapansanan,tulad ng mga dokumento sa braille at malaking print. Tumawag sa 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. Libre ang mga serbisyong ito.

<u>แท็กไลน์ภาษาไทย (Thai)</u>

โปรดทราบ: หากคูณด้องการความช่วยเหลือ**เป็น**ภาษาของคูณ **กรุณา**โทร**ศัพท์ไปที่หมายเลข**1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711 นอกจากนี้ ยังพร้อมให้ความช่วยเหลือและบริการต่าง ๆ สำหรับบุคคลที่มีความพิการ เช่น เอกสารต่าง ๆ ที่เป็นอักษรเบรลล์และ**เอกสารที่พิมพ์ด้วย**ตัวอักษรขนาดใหญ่ **กรุณา**โทร**ศัพท์ไปที่หมายเลข 1-**800-708-3230 TTY: 711 ใม่มีค่าใช้จ่ายสำหรับบริการเหล่านี้

Примітка українською (Ukrainian)

УВАГА! Якщо вам потрібна допомога вашою рідною мовою, телефонуйте на номер 1-800-708-3230 ТТҮ: 711. Люди з обмеженими можливостями також можуть скористатися допоміжними засобами та послугами, наприклад, отримати документи, надруковані шрифтом Брайля та великим шрифтом. Телефонуйте на номер 1-800-708-3230 ТТҮ: 711. Ці послуги безкоштовні.

Khẩu hiệu tiếng Việt (Vietnamese)

CHÚ Ý: Nếu quý vị cần trợ giúp bằng ngôn ngữ của mình, vui lòng gọi số 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. Chúng tôi cũng hỗ trợ và cung cấp các dịch vụ dành cho người khuyết tật, như tài liệu bằng chữ nổi Braille và chữ khổ lớn (chữ hoa). Vui lòng gọi số 1-800-708-3230 TTY: 711. Các dịch vụ này đều miễn phí.



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

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

Enrollment Code: << Enrollment Code>>

To Enroll, Scan the QR Code Below:



Or Visit: http://response.idx.us/prospectmedical

September 29, 2023

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On August 1, 2023, Prospect Medical learned of a data security incident that disrupted the operations of some of our IT systems. We immediately took steps to secure our systems, contain the incident, and notify law enforcement. Additionally, we engaged the expertise of a third-party forensic investigation firm to conduct a thorough investigation.

Through our ongoing investigation, on September 13, 2023, we determined that an unauthorized party gained access to our IT network between the dates of July 31, 2023 and August 3, 2023. While in our IT network, the unauthorized party accessed files that contain information pertaining to Prospect Medical employees and dependents. Our investigation cannot rule out the possibility that, as a result of this incident, files containing some of your information may have been subject to unauthorized access. This information may have included your name and Social Security number.

We wanted to notify you of this incident and to assure you that we take it seriously. We have arranged for you to receive credit monitoring and identity protection services through the company IDX at no cost to you. These identity protection services include one-year of credit and CyberScan monitoring, a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed identity theft recovery services. These services are completely free to you, and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score. For more information on the services, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary one-year membership, please visit http://response.idx.us/prospectmedical or call 1-888-979-0012 or scan the QR image and use the Enrollment Code provided above. Please note the deadline to enroll is December 29, 2023. For more information on identity protection as well as some additional steps you can take in response, please see the additional information provided in this letter.

We deeply regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause and take this matter seriously. To help prevent something like this from happening again, we have implemented, and will continue to adopt, additional safeguards and technical security measures to further protect and monitor our systems. If you have any questions about this incident, please call 1-888-979-0012, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am -9:00 pm, Eastern Time (excluding major U.S. holidays).

Sincerely,

Jennifer Marchese Executive Director, Human Resources Eastern Connecticut Health Network Lindsey Smith Director, Human Resources Waterbury HEALTH

Lindsey Smith

IDX IDENTITY PROTECTION

- 1. Website and Enrollment. Scan the QR image or go to http://response.idx.us/prospectmedical and follow the instructions for enrollment using your Enrollment Code provided at the top of the letter. The enrollment deadline is December 29, 2023.
- **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 1-888-979-0012 to gain additional information about this event and speak with knowledgeable representatives about the appropriate steps to take to protect your credit identity.

IDX Identity will include one-year enrollments into the following service components:

SINGLE BUREAU CREDIT MONITORING (adults*) - Monitoring of credit bureau for changes to the member's credit file such as new credit inquires, new accounts opened, delinquent payments, improvements in the member's credit report, bankruptcies, court judgments and tax liens, new addresses, new employers, and other activities that affect the member's credit record.

CYBERSCANTM - Dark Web monitoring of underground websites, chat rooms, and malware, 24/7, to identify trading or selling of personal information like SSNs, bank accounts, email addresses, medical ID numbers, driver's license numbers, passport numbers, credit and debit cards, phone numbers, and other unique identifiers.

IDENTITY THEFT INSURANCE - Identity theft insurance will reimburse members for expenses associated with restoring their identity should they become a victim of identity theft. If a member's identity is compromised, the policy provides coverage for up to \$1,000,000, with no deductible, from an A.M. Best "A-rated" carrier. Coverage is subject to the terms, limits, and/or exclusions of the policy.

FULLY MANAGED IDENTITY RECOVERY – IDX's fully managed recovery service provides restoration for identity theft issues such as (but not limited to): account creation, criminal identity theft, medical identity theft, account takeover, rental application, tax fraud, benefits fraud, and utility creation. This service includes a complete triage process for affected individuals who report suspicious activity, a personally assigned IDCare Specialist to fully manage restoration of each case, and expert guidance for those with questions about identity theft and protective measures.

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. 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 www.annualcreditreport.com 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, www.equifax.com, 1-800-685-1111 Experian, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742 TransUnion, PO Box 1000, Chester, PA 19016, www.experian.com, 1-800-888-4213

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), www.identitytheft.gov

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:

Equifax Security Freeze, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.com
Experian Security Freeze, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com
TransUnion Security Freeze, PO Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094, www.transunion.com

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.

Additional information for residents of the following states:

Maryland Residents: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *Maryland Attorney General's Office*, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023 / 1-410-576-6300, www.oag.state.md.us

New York Residents: You may contact and obtain information from these state agencies: *New York Department of State Division of Consumer Protection,* One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12231-0001, 518-474-8583 / 1-800-697-1220, http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection; and *New York State Office of the Attorney General,* The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341, 1-800-771-7755, https://ag.ny.gov

North Carolina Residents: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *North Carolina Attorney General's Office*, 9001 Mail Service Centre, Raleigh, NC 27699, 1-919-716-6000 / 1-877-566-7226, www.ncdoj.gov

Rhode Island Residents: This incident involves 57 individuals in Rhode Island. Under Rhode Island 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: *Rhode Island Attorney General's Office*, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, 1-401-274-4400, www.riag.ri.gov

West Virginia Residents: You have the right to ask that nationwide consumer reporting agencies place "fraud alerts" in your file to let potential creditors and others know that you may be a victim of identity theft, as described above. You also have a right to place a security freeze on your credit report, as described above.

A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act: The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Your major rights under the FCRA are summarized below. For more information, including information about additional rights, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.

You have the right to know what is in your file.

You have the right to ask for a credit score.

You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.

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 reports to be provided to employers.

You may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.

You have a 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.

You may seek damages from violators.

Identity theft victims and active-duty military personnel have additional rights.