



UnitedHealthcare Privacy Office  
PO Box 1459  
Minneapolis, MN 55440

[Date]

[Name]

Address Line 1

Address Line 2

City, STATE, Zip Code]

### **Notice of Data Breach**

Dear [Name],

We regret to inform you of a privacy incident involving some of your information.

#### **What Happened?**

On October 16, 2023, Equality Health—an Accountable Care Organization that serves certain UnitedHealthcare (“UHC”) members in Arizona—notified UHC that an unauthorized individual accessed an Equality Health employee’s email account between April 11 and 12, 2023. Equality Health recently concluded a comprehensive review of the affected email account and determined that one email attachment contained your information.

#### **What Information Was Involved?**

The information within the attachment included your name, date of birth, gender, address, [Social Security number], UHC member ID number, Medicare ID number, Medicare plan information, and primary care provider information. This incident did not involve disclosure of your [Social Security number], driver’s license number or any financial account information.

#### **Why Did This Happen?**

Our investigation determined that this event was the result of an employee error and a prior inappropriate disclosure of your information. Specifically, in September 2020, a UHC employee sent your information to an Equality Health employee when attempting to confirm whether your primary care provider was in Equality Health’s network. The UHC employee should not have included your information when doing so.

#### **What We Are Doing**

UHC and Equality Health were not aware of our employees’ respective errors until recently, and we sincerely apologize for their oversight. UHC will be counseling and retraining the employee responsible for the initial disclosure of your information.

Upon discovering the unauthorized access that occurred in April 2023, Equality Health immediately secured the affected employee account and began an investigation. Equality Health found no evidence that the unauthorized individual acquired or misused any of your information. However, in an abundance of caution, we are notifying you so you can take steps to protect your identity, should you feel it appropriate to do so.

Equality Health is providing you with access to Credit Monitoring services through **Single Bureau Credit Monitoring** at no charge. When you enroll, you receive alerts for **xx** months from the date of enrollment when changes occur to your credit file. Equality Health is also providing you with fraud assistance through **Cyberscout** to help with any questions that you might have or in the event that you become a victim of fraud. These services will be provided by Cyberscout through Identity Force, a TransUnion company specializing in fraud assistance and remediation services.

### **What You Can Do**

You can sign up for the free Credit Monitoring services that Equality Health has provided. To enroll, please log on to **<<URL>>** and follow the instructions. When asked, please provide the following unique code: **<CODE HERE>**

To receive Credit Monitoring services, you must enroll within 90 days from the date of this letter. The enrollment requires an internet connection and e-mail account. When signing up, you may be asked to confirm personal information for your own protection to confirm your identity.

Representatives are available to answer questions for 90 days from the date of this letter, to assist you with questions regarding this incident, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Please call the help line at 1-833-609-2435 and provide your unique code listed above.

Please also check your UHC explanation of benefits statements, bills and accounts to be sure they look correct. We have attached steps on how to do that.

### **For More Information**

We have also attached instructions on how to help protect your information, contact the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, place an alert or freeze on your Credit File, or contact your state attorney general if applicable.

Please see the attached Reference Guide for steps you can take to help protect your information in response to this incident. We also suggest that you retain this notice for your records.

UHC takes this matter very seriously and is committed to protecting the privacy and security of your personal information. Again, we sincerely apologize for any inconvenience or concern this event may cause.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aine Skirvin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Áine Skirvin  
Associate General Counsel  
UnitedHealthcare Privacy Office

## **Reference Guide**

### **1. Review Your Account Statements**

Remain vigilant for incidents of potential fraud and identity theft. Carefully review account statements and credit reports to make sure that all of your account activity is valid. Report any questionable charges promptly to the financial institution or company with which you maintain the account.

As a precaution to protect against misuse of your health information, we recommend that you remain vigilant and regularly monitor the explanation of benefits statements that you receive from us, and your bank and credit card statements, and credit reports to check for any unfamiliar activity. If you notice any health care services that you did not receive listed on an explanation of benefits statement, please contact us at the number on the back of your member ID card. If you do not regularly receive explanation of benefits statements, you may request that we send you these statements following the provision of any health care services in your name or plan number by contacting us at the number on the back of your member ID card. If you notice any suspicious activity on either your bank or credit card statement, please immediately contact your financial institution and/or credit card company.

### **2. Order Your Free Credit Report**

To order your free annual credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228, or complete the Annual Credit Report Request Form on the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's ("FTC") website at [www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov) and mail it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281. The three credit bureaus provide free annual credit reports only through the website, toll-free number, or request form.

Upon receiving your credit report, review them carefully. Look for any accounts you did not open. Look in the "inquires" section for names of creditors from whom you have not requested credit. Some companies bill under names other than their store or commercial names; the credit bureau will be able to tell if this is the case. Look in the "personal information" section for inaccuracies in information (such as home address and Social Security number).

If you see anything that you do not understand, call the credit bureau at the telephone number of the report. Errors may be a warning sign of possible identity theft. You should notify the credit bureaus of any inaccuracies in your report, whether due to error or fraud, as soon as possible so the information can be investigated and, if found to be in error, corrected. If there are accounts or charges you did not authorize, immediately notify the appropriate credit bureau by telephone and in writing. Information that cannot be explained should also be reported to your local police or sheriff's office because it may signal criminal activity.

### **3. Contact the U.S. Federal Trade Commission**

If you detect any unauthorized transactions in your financial accounts, promptly notify the appropriate payment card company or financial institution. If you detect any incident of identity theft or fraud, promptly report the incident to your local law enforcement authorities, your state Attorney General and FTC.

If you believe your identity has been stolen, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") has created a one-stop resource site that provides an interactive checklist that walks through the steps people need to take upon learning that their identity has been stolen or their personal information has been compromised in a data breach. The FTC recommends that you take these additional 4 steps right away when you become a victim:

**Step 1: Call the companies where you know fraud occurred.**

**Step 2: Place a fraud alert and get your credit reports.**

**Step 3: Report identity theft to the FTC.**

**Step 4: You may choose to file a report with your local police department.**

A checklist of the steps listed above and links to forms and other helpful information can be found on the site at <https://www.identitytheft.gov/#/Steps>, or you can contact the FTC to learn more about how to protect yourself from becoming a victim of identity theft at <https://consumer.ftc.gov/features/identity-theft>.

#### **4. Place a Fraud Alert on Your Credit File**

To protect yourself from possible identity theft, consider placing a fraud alert on your credit file. A fraud alert helps protect you against the possibility of an identity thief opening new credit accounts in your name. When a credit grantor checks the credit history of someone applying for credit, the credit grantor gets a notice that the applicant may be a victim of identity theft. The alert notifies the credit grantor to take steps to verify the identity of the applicant. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by calling any one of the toll-free fraud numbers provided below. You will reach an automated telephone system that allows flagging your file with a fraud alert at all three bureaus.

<b>Credit Agency</b>	<b>Mailing Address</b>	<b>Phone Number</b>	<b>Website</b>
<b>Equifax</b>	P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069	1-888-766-0008	<a href="http://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>
<b>Experian</b>	P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013	1-888-397-3742	<a href="http://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>
<b>TransUnion</b>	P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016	1-800-680-7289	<a href="http://www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>

#### **5. Place a Security Freeze on Your Credit File**

You may wish to place a “security freeze” on your credit file, at no cost to you, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate a freeze. A security freeze generally will prevent creditors from accessing your credit file at the three nationwide credit bureaus without your consent. If you place a security freeze, potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a security freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit.

Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a security freeze on your credit file at each credit bureau. To place a security freeze on your credit report you must contact the credit reporting agency by phone, mail, or secure electronic means and provide proper identification of your identity. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) phone number, current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, display your name and current mailing address, and the date of issue.

You can request a security freeze for free by contacting the credit bureaus at:

Credit Agency	Mailing Address*	Phone Number	Website
<b>Equifax</b>	P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348	1-800-349-9960	<a href="http://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>
<b>Experian</b>	P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013	1-888-397-3742	<a href="http://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>
<b>TransUnion</b>	P.O. Box 160 Woodlyn, PA 19094	1-800-916-8800	<a href="http://www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>

Once you have submitted your request, the credit reporting agency must place the security freeze no later than 1 business day after receiving a request by phone or secure electronic means, and no later than 3 business days after receiving a request by mail. No later than five business days after placing the security freeze, the credit reporting agency will send you confirmation and information on how you can remove the freeze in the future.

**Additional Attorney General Office Identity Theft Resources.** You can obtain information from your state's Attorney General's Office about security breach response and steps you can take to help prevent identify theft. Please see the information below for states that provide these resources:

**For California Residents.** You can obtain additional information from the California Department of Justice's Privacy Enforcement and Protection Unit (<https://oag.ca.gov/privacy>) to learn more about protection against identity theft.

**For District of Columbia Residents.** You can obtain additional identity theft information from the District of Columbia's Attorney General Office, Office of Consumer Protection, 400 6<sup>th</sup> Street, NW, Washington DC 20001, 1-202-442-9828, <https://oag.dc.gov/consumer-protection/consumer-alert-identity-theft>.

**For Iowa Residents.** You may contact law enforcement or the Iowa Attorney General's office to report suspected incidents of identity theft. The Iowa Attorney General's Office can be reached at:

Iowa Attorney General's Office  
Director of Consumer Protection Division  
1305 E. Walnut Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319

Phone: 1-515-281-5926

Website: [www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov)

**For Maryland Residents.** You can contact the Maryland Attorney General at:

Maryland Office of the Attorney General  
Identity Theft Unit  
200 St. Paul Place  
25<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Baltimore, MD 21202

Phone: 1-410-576-6491

Website: <https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/IdentityTheft/default.aspx>

**For Residents of Massachusetts.** You have the right to obtain a police report with respect 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.

**For New Mexico Residents.** New Mexico consumers have the right to obtain a security freeze or submit a declaration of removal.

You may obtain a security freeze on your credit report to protect your privacy and ensure that credit is not granted in your name without your knowledge. You may submit a declaration of removal to remove information placed in your credit report as a result of being a victim of identity theft. You have a right to place a security freeze on your credit report or submit a declaration of removal pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting and Identity Security Act.

The security freeze will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing any information in your credit report without your express authorization or approval. The security freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans and services from being approved in your name without your consent. When you place a security freeze on your credit report, you will be provided with a personal identification number, password or similar device to use if you choose to remove the freeze on your credit report or to temporarily authorize the release of your credit report to a specific party or parties or for a specific period of time after the freeze is in place. To remove the freeze or to provide authorization for the temporary release of your credit report, you must contact the consumer reporting agency and provide all of the following:

- (1) the unique personal identification number, password or similar device provided by the consumer reporting agency;
- (2) proper identification to verify your identity; and
- (3) information regarding the third party or parties who are to receive the credit report or the period of time for which the credit report may be released to users of the credit report.

A consumer reporting agency that receives a request from a consumer to lift temporarily a freeze on a credit report shall comply with the request no later than three business days after receiving the request. As of September 1, 2008, a consumer reporting agency shall comply with the request within fifteen minutes of receiving the request by a secure electronic method or by telephone.

A security freeze does not apply in all circumstances, such as where you have an existing account relationship and a copy of your credit report is requested by your existing creditor or its agents for certain types of account review, collection, fraud control or similar activities; for use in setting or adjusting an insurance rate or claim or insurance underwriting; for certain governmental purposes; and for purposes of prescreening as defined in the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act.

If you are actively seeking a new credit, loan, utility, telephone or insurance account, you should understand that the procedures involved in lifting a security freeze may slow your own applications for credit. You should plan ahead and lift a freeze, either completely if you are shopping around or specifically for a certain creditor, with enough advance notice before you apply for new credit for the lifting to take effect. You should contact a consumer reporting agency and request it to lift the freeze at least three business days before applying. As of September 1, 2008, if you contact a consumer reporting agency by a secure electronic method or by telephone, the consumer reporting agency should lift the freeze within fifteen minutes. You have a right to bring a civil action against a consumer reporting agency that violates your rights under the Fair Credit Reporting and Identity Security Act.

**For New York Residents.** You may also obtain information about security breach response and identity theft prevention and protection from the New York Attorney General's Office:

Office of the Attorney General  
The Capitol  
Albany, NY 12224-0341

Phone: 1-800-771-7755  
Website: [www.ag.ny.gov](http://www.ag.ny.gov)

**For North Carolina Residents.** You can obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General at:

North Carolina Attorney General's Office  
Consumer Protection Division  
9001 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-9001

Phone: 1-877-566-7226 (Toll-free within North Carolina), 1-919-716-6000

Website: <https://ncdoj.gov/>

Identity Theft Link: <https://ncdoj.gov/protecting-consumers/protecting-your-identity/>

**For Oregon Residents.** State laws advise you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, as well as the Federal Trade Commission. You can contact the Oregon Department of Justice at:

Oregon Department of Justice  
1162 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Phone: 1-877-877-9392

Website: [www.doj.state.or.us](http://www.doj.state.or.us)

**For Rhode Island Residents.** You have a right to file or obtain a police report related to this incident. You may also obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the Rhode Island Attorney General at:

Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General  
150 South Main Street  
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

Phone: 1-401-274-4400

Website: <http://www.riag.ri.gov/ConsumerProtection/About.php#>