

Colin M. Battersby
Direct Dial: (248) 593-2952
E-mail: cbattersby@mcdonaldhopkins.com

April 1, 2022

VIA EMAIL (Idtheft@oaq.state.md.us)

Brian E. Frosh
Office of the Maryland Attorney General
Attn: Security Breach Notification
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Hillside Community Church – Incident Notification

Dear Mr. Frosh:

McDonald Hopkins PLC represents Hillside Community Church (“Hillside”). I am writing to provide notification of an incident at Hillside that may affect the security of personal information of three (3) Maryland residents. Hillside’s investigation is ongoing, and this notification will be supplemented with any new or significant facts or findings subsequent to this submission, if any. By providing this notice, Hillside does not waive any rights or defenses regarding the applicability of Maryland law or personal jurisdiction.

Hillside recently became aware that potential unauthorized access to part of its network occurred on December 1, 2021. Upon learning of the incident, Hillside immediately launched an investigation in consultation with outside cybersecurity professionals who regularly investigate and analyze these types of incidents. Hillside devoted considerable time and effort in partnership with these professionals to determine what information may have been accessible to unauthorized users. Following this investigation, Hillside discovered on March 10, 2022 that data potentially accessed and acquired by the unauthorized party may have contained personal information such as residents’ full names and Social Security numbers.

Hillside has no indication that any of the information has been misused. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, Hillside wanted to inform you (and the affected residents) of the incident and to explain the steps that it is taking to help safeguard the affected residents against identity fraud. Hillside is providing the affected residents with written notification of this incident commencing on or about April 1, 2022 in substantially the same form as the letter attached hereto. Hillside is offering the affected residents complimentary one-year memberships with credit monitoring services. Hillside will advise the affected residents to always remain vigilant in reviewing financial account statements for fraudulent or irregular activity on a regular basis. Hillside will advise the affected residents about the process for placing a fraud alert and/or security freeze on their credit files and obtaining free credit reports. The affected residents are

April 1, 2022

Page 2

also being provided with the contact information for the consumer reporting agencies, the Maryland Attorney General, and the Federal Trade Commission.

At Hillside, protecting the privacy of personal information is a top priority. Hillside is committed to maintaining the privacy of personal information in its possession and has taken many precautions to safeguard it. Hillside continually evaluates and modifies its practices to enhance the security and privacy of the personal information it maintains.

Should you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact me at (248) 593-2952 or cbattersby@mcdonaldhopkins.com. Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,



Colin M. Battersby

Encl.

Hillside Community Church



HILLSIDE

COMMUNITY CHURCH



**Important Information Please
Review Carefully**



Dear [REDACTED]

The privacy and security of the personal information we maintain is of the utmost importance to Hillside Community Church (“Hillside”). We are writing to provide you with information regarding a data security incident that may have impacted your personal information. We want to provide you with information about the incident, advise you of the services we will be providing to you, and let you know that we continue to take significant measures to protect your personal information.

Hillside recently became aware that potential unauthorized access to part of its network occurred on December 1, 2021. Upon learning of this issue, we immediately launched an investigation in consultation with outside cybersecurity professionals who regularly investigate and analyze these types of incidents. We devoted considerable time and effort in partnership with these professionals to determine what information may have been accessible to unauthorized users.

Following this investigation, we discovered on March 10, 2022 that data potentially accessed and acquired by the unauthorized party may have contained some of your personal information, including your full name along with [REDACTED].

We have no evidence that any of the information has been misused. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, we want to make you aware of the incident. To protect you from potential misuse of your information, we are offering a **complimentary** one-year membership of Experian IdentityWorksSM Credit 3B. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with identity protection services focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft. IdentityWorks Credit 3B is completely free to you and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score. For more information on identity theft prevention and IdentityWorks Credit 3B, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary one-year membership, please see the additional information provided in this letter.

This letter also provides other precautionary measures you can take to protect your personal information, including placing a Fraud Alert and Security Freeze on your credit files, and obtaining a free credit report. Additionally, you should always remain vigilant in reviewing your financial account statements and credit reports for fraudulent or irregular activity on a regular basis.

Please accept our sincere apologies that this incident occurred. We recognize the inconvenience and the concerns that it raises. We remain fully committed to maintaining the privacy of personal information in our possession and have taken many increased precautions to safeguard it. We continually evaluate and modify our practices to enhance the security and privacy of personal information.

If you have any further questions regarding this incident, please call our toll-free response line at [REDACTED] This response line is available Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 3 p.m, Pacific Time.

In His care,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Hillside Community Church

– OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION –

1. Enrolling in Complimentary 12-Month Credit Monitoring.

To help protect your identity, we are offering a **complimentary** one-year membership of Experian IdentityWorksSM Credit 3B. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with superior identity protection support focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft.

Activate IdentityWorks Credit 3B Now in Three Easy Steps

1. ENROLL by: [REDACTED] (Your code will not work after this date.)
2. VISIT the **Experian IdentityWorks website** to enroll: [REDACTED]
3. PROVIDE the **Activation Code**: [REDACTED]

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with identity restoration or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at [REDACTED]. Be prepared to provide engagement number [REDACTED] as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services by Experian.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 12-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS CREDIT 3B MEMBERSHIP:

A credit card is **not** required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks Credit 3B.

You can contact Experian **immediately without needing to enroll in the product** regarding any fraud issues. Identity Restoration specialists are available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.

Once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks, you will have access to the following additional features:

- **Experian credit report at signup:** See what information is associated with your credit file. Daily credit reports are available for online members only.*
- **Credit Monitoring:** Actively monitors Experian, Equifax and Transunion files for indicators of fraud.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARETM:** You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **\$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance^{**}:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

**Activate your membership today at [REDACTED]
or call [REDACTED] to register with the activation code above.**

What you can do to protect your information: There are additional actions you can consider taking to reduce the chances of identity theft or fraud on your account(s). Please refer to www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration for this information. If you have any questions about IdentityWorks, need help understanding something on your credit report or suspect that an item on your credit report may be fraudulent, please contact Experian's customer care team at 877-288-8057.

* Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling.

** Identity theft insurance is underwritten by insurance company subsidiaries or affiliates of American International Group, Inc. (AIG). The description herein is a summary and intended for informational purposes only and does not include all terms, conditions and exclusions of the policies described. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions.

2. Placing a Fraud Alert on Your Credit File.

Whether or not you choose to use the complimentary credit monitoring services, we recommend that you place an initial 1-year “fraud alert” on your credit files, at no charge. A fraud alert tells creditors to contact you personally before they open any new accounts. To place a fraud alert, call any one of the three major credit bureaus at the numbers listed below. As soon as one credit bureau confirms your fraud alert, they will notify the others.

Equifax

P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348

<https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts/>

(800) 525-6285

Experian

P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013

<https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html>

(888) 397-3742

TransUnion LLC

P.O. Box 6790
Fullerton, PA 92834-6790

<https://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts>

(800) 680-7289

3. Placing a Security Freeze on Your Credit File.

If you are very concerned about becoming a victim of fraud or identity theft, you may request a “security freeze” be placed on your credit file, at no charge. A security freeze prohibits, with certain specific exceptions, the consumer reporting agencies from releasing your credit report or any information from it without your express authorization. You may place a security freeze on your credit report by sending a request in writing or by mail, to all three nationwide credit reporting companies. To find out more about how to place a security freeze, you can use the following contact information:

Equifax Security Freeze

P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348

<https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/>

1-800-349-9960

Experian Security Freeze

P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013

<http://experian.com/freeze>

1-888-397-3742

TransUnion Security Freeze

P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016

<https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze>

1-888-909-8872

In order to place the security freeze, 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 monitoring company will send you a confirmation letter containing 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.

If you do place a security freeze *prior* to enrolling in the credit monitoring service as described above, you will need to remove the freeze in order to sign up for the credit monitoring service. After you sign up for the credit monitoring service, you may refreeze your credit file.

4. Obtaining a Free Credit Report.

Under federal law, you are entitled to one free credit report every 12 months from each of the above three major nationwide credit reporting companies. Call **1-877-322-8228** or request your free credit reports online at **www.annualcreditreport.com**. Once you receive your credit reports, review them for discrepancies. Identify any accounts you did not open or inquiries from creditors that you did not authorize. Verify all information is correct. If you have questions or notice incorrect information, contact the credit reporting company.

5. **Additional Helpful Resources.**

Even if you do not find any suspicious activity on your initial credit reports, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends that you check your credit reports periodically. Checking your credit report periodically can help you spot problems and address them quickly.

If you find suspicious activity on your credit reports or have reason to believe your information is being misused, call your local law enforcement agency and file a police report. Be sure to obtain a copy of the police report, as many creditors will want the information it contains to absolve you of the fraudulent debts. You may also file a complaint with the FTC by contacting them on the web at www.ftc.gov/idtheft, by phone at 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338), or by mail at Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. Your complaint will be added to the FTC's Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse, where it will be accessible to law enforcement for their investigations. In addition, you may obtain information from the FTC about fraud alerts and security freezes.

If this notice letter states that your financial account information and/or credit or debit card information was impacted, we recommend that you contact your financial institution to inquire about steps to take to protect your account, including whether you should close your account or obtain a new account number.

Maryland Residents: You may obtain information about avoiding identity theft from the Maryland Attorney General's Office: Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, Consumer Protection Division, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, www.oag.state.md.us/Consumer, Telephone: 1-888-743-0023.

New York Residents: You may obtain information about preventing identity theft from the New York Attorney General's Office: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; <https://ag.ny.gov/consumer-frauds-bureau/identity-theft>; Telephone: 800-771-7755.

North Carolina Residents: You may obtain information about preventing identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office: Office of the Attorney General of North Carolina, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, www.ncdoj.gov/, Telephone: 877-566-7226.

Oregon Residents: You may obtain information about preventing identity theft from the Oregon Attorney General's Office: Oregon Department of Justice, 1162 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-4096, www.doj.state.or.us/, Telephone: 877-877-9392