

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

McDonald Hopkins PLC
39533 Woodward Avenue
Suite 318
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304

P 1.248.646.5070
F 1.248.646.5075

March 3, 2022

VIA U.S. MAIL

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



Re: Conte Wealth Advisors – Incident Notification

Dear Sir or Madam:

McDonald Hopkins PLC represents Conte Wealth Advisors. I am writing to provide notification of an incident at Conte Wealth Advisors that may affect the security of personal information of approximately ten (10) Maryland residents. Conte Wealth Advisors' 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, Conte Wealth Advisors does not waive any rights or defenses regarding the applicability of Maryland law or personal jurisdiction.

Conte Wealth Advisors learned recently that an unauthorized party may have obtained access to one contractor's email account on August 13, 2021. Upon learning of this issue, Conte Wealth Advisors immediately commenced a thorough investigation. As part of this investigation, Conte Wealth Advisors has been working very closely with external cybersecurity professionals experienced in handling these types of incidents. Conte Wealth Advisors devoted considerable time and effort to determine what information was contained in the affected email account. Based on its comprehensive investigation and manual document review, Conte Wealth Advisors discovered on January 26, 2022 that the compromised email account contained a limited amount of personal information, including the affected residents' full names, Social Security numbers, driver's license numbers, financial account information, and credit card account information.

Conte Wealth Advisors has no indication that any information has been misused. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, Conte Wealth Advisors 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. Conte Wealth Advisors is providing the affected residents with notification of this incident commencing on or about March 4, 2022 in substantially the same form as the letter attached hereto. Conte Wealth Advisors is advising the affected residents to always remain vigilant in reviewing financial account statements for fraudulent or irregular activity on a regular basis. Conte Wealth Advisors is providing 12 months

1. The first step is to identify the key components of the system. This includes understanding the hardware, software, and data involved.

[illegible]

1. The first step in the process of identifying a problem is to recognize that a problem exists. This involves gathering information about the situation and identifying the specific issue that needs to be addressed.

10.2501/10.2000.00000000

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

1. The first of these is the fact that the Commission has not yet received any information from the Government of the United Kingdom as to whether or not it is prepared to accept the Commission's findings and recommendations. This is a matter of great importance, as it will determine whether the Commission's work has been successful or not. The Commission is therefore anxious to receive a reply from the Government as soon as possible.

bioRxiv preprint doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/000000>; this version posted January 1, 2016. The copyright holder for this preprint (which was not certified by peer review) is the author/funder, who has granted bioRxiv a license to display the preprint in perpetuity. It is made available under aCC-BY-NC-ND 4.0 International license.

March 3, 2022

Page 2

of complimentary credit monitoring to the residents with impacted Social Security numbers, and is advising 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 also being provided with the contact information for the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, and the Maryland Attorney General.

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

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.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION PLEASE REVIEW CAREFULLY

Dear [REDACTED]:

We are writing with important information regarding a recent security incident. The privacy and security of the personal information we maintain is of the utmost importance to Conte Wealth Advisors. As such, we wanted to provide you with information about the incident, explain the services we are making available to you, and let you know that we continue to take significant measures to protect your information.

What Happened?

We recently learned that an unauthorized individual may have obtained access to one contractor's email account.

What We Are Doing.

Upon learning of the issue, we immediately commenced a prompt and thorough investigation. As part of our investigation, we have been working very closely with external cybersecurity professionals experienced in handling these types of incidents. After an extensive forensic investigation and manual document review, we discovered on January 26, 2022 that the impacted email account that may have been accessed on August 13, 2021 contained some of your personal information. 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.

What Information Was Involved?

The impacted email account contained some of your personal information [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

What You Can Do.

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

[REDACTED]

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/or security freeze on your credit files, and/or obtaining a free credit report. Additionally, you should always remain vigilant in reviewing your account statements for fraudulent or irregular activity on a regular basis.

For More Information.

Please accept our apologies that this incident occurred. We are committed to maintaining the privacy of personal information in our possession and have taken many precautions to safeguard it. We continually evaluate and modify our practices and internal controls to enhance the security and privacy of your personal information.

If you have any further questions regarding this incident, please contact John Waldron at [REDACTED].

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

-OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION-

1. 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**:

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 [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 ExtendCARE™:** 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].

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 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



* 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 12-month 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	Experian	TransUnion LLC
P.O. Box 105788	P.O. Box 9554	P.O. Box 6790
Atlanta, GA 30348	Allen, TX 75013	Fullerton, CA 92834
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts/	https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html	https://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts
(800) 525-6285	(888) 397-3742	(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	Experian Security Freeze	TransUnion Security Freeze
P.O. Box 105788	P.O. Box 9554	P.O. Box 2000
Atlanta, GA 30348	Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19016
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/	http://experian.com/freeze	http://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze
1-800-349-9960	1-888-397-3742	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 your personal information has been used to file a false tax return, to open an account or to attempt to open an account in your name or to commit fraud or other crimes against you, you may file a police report in the City in which you currently reside.

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 [REDACTED] or request your free credit reports [REDACTED]. 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.