

Christine Czuprynski
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March 4, 2022

VIA EMAIL

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

Re: KLNB, LLC, KLNB, Inc. and Ariston, LLC – Incident Notification

Dear Sir or Madam:

McDonald Hopkins PLC represents KLNB, LLC, KLNB, Inc. and Ariston, LLC (collectively, “KLNB”). I am writing to provide notification of an incident at KLNB that may affect the security of personal information of approximately two (2) Maryland residents. KLNB 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, KLNB does not waive any rights or defenses regarding the applicability of Maryland law or personal jurisdiction.

On November 20, 2021, KLNB detected that a ransomware infection began encrypting files stored on our network. Upon learning of this issue, KLNB contained the threat by disabling all unauthorized access to their network, restoring all encrypted data, and immediately commencing a prompt and thorough investigation. As part of their investigation, KLNB worked very closely with external cybersecurity professionals experienced in handling these types of incidents. KLNB learned that in addition to encrypting files, the attacker had access to certain files, and may have removed some files from their network. After an extensive forensic investigation and manual document review, KLNB discovered on February 10, 2022 that certain files and folders potentially removed from its network contained residents’ full name and Social Security number.

At the time of this notification, KLNB is not aware of any reports of identity theft or fraud arising out of this incident. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, KLNB 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. KLNB is providing the affected residents with written notification of this incident commencing on or about March 7, 2022 in substantially the same form as the letter attached hereto. KLNB is offering the affected residents complimentary one-year membership with a credit monitoring service. KLNB will advise the affected residents to always remain vigilant in reviewing financial account statements for fraudulent or irregular activity on a regular basis. KLNB will advise the affected residents about the process for placing a fraud alert and/or security freeze on their credit files and obtaining free

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credit reports. The affected residents are also being provided with the contact information for the consumer reporting agencies, the Maryland Attorney General, and the Federal Trade Commission.

At KLNB, protecting the privacy of personal information is a top priority. KLNB is committed to maintaining the privacy of personal information in its possession and has taken many precautions to safeguard it. KLNB 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) 220-1360 or cczuprynski@mcdonaldhopkins.com. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christine N. Czuprynski", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christine N. Czuprynski

Encl.

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION
PLEASE REVIEW CAREFULLY**

Dear [REDACTED]

The privacy and security of the personal information we maintain is of the utmost importance to KLNb, LLC, KLNb, Inc. and Ariston, LLC (collectively, "KLNb"). We are writing with important information regarding a recent data security incident that may have involved some of your information. We want to provide you with information about the incident, let you know about the services we are providing to you, and let you know that we continue to take significant measures to protect your information.

What Happened?

On November 20, 2021, KLNb detected that a ransomware infection began encrypting files stored on our network.

What We Are Doing.

Upon learning of this issue, we contained the threat by disabling all unauthorized access to our network, restoring all encrypted data, and immediately commencing a prompt and thorough investigation. As part of our investigation, we worked very closely with external cybersecurity professionals experienced in handling these types of incidents. We learned that in addition to encrypting files, the attacker had access to certain files, and may have removed some files from our network. After an extensive forensic investigation and manual document review, we discovered on February 10, 2022 that the impacted files may have contained your personal information.

What Information Was Involved.

The impacted files may have contained some of your personal information, specifically your name and Social Security number.

What You Can Do.

We have no evidence that any of your information has been misused. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, we want to make you aware of the incident. To protect you and your information, we are providing you with 12 months of free credit monitoring and identity theft protection services through TransUnion. This service helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with identity protection services focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft. This service is completely free to you and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score. For more information on identity theft prevention, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary one-year membership, please see the additional information provided in this letter.

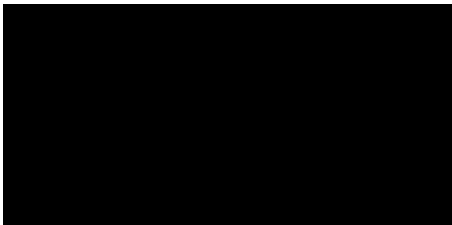
This letter also provides other precautionary measures you can take to protect your personal information, including placing a fraud alert and/or security freeze on your credit files, and/or obtaining a free credit report. Additionally, you should always remain vigilant in reviewing your financial account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

For More Information.

Please accept our apologies that this incident occurred. We remain fully 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 to enhance the security and privacy of your personal information.

If you have any further questions regarding this incident, please call us at [REDACTED]. We are available from 8:30 am to 5:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

Sincerely,



KLNB, LLC

– OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION –

1. Enrolling in Complimentary 12-Month Credit Monitoring.

As a safeguard, we have arranged for you to enroll, at no cost to you, in an online credit monitoring service (*myTrueIdentity*) for 12 months provided by TransUnion Interactive, a subsidiary of TransUnion®, one of the three nationwide credit reporting companies.

To enroll in this service, go directly to the *myTrueIdentity* website at **www.mytrueidentity.com** and in the space referenced as “Enter Activation Code”, enter the following unique 12-letter Activation Code [REDACTED] and follow the three steps to receive your credit monitoring service online within minutes.

If you do not have access to the Internet and wish to enroll in a similar offline, paper based, credit monitoring service, via U.S. Mail delivery, please call the TransUnion Fraud Response Services toll-free hotline at **1-855-288-5422**. When prompted, enter the following 6-digit telephone pass code [REDACTED] and follow the steps to enroll in the offline credit monitoring service, add an initial fraud alert to your credit file, or to speak to a TransUnion representative if you believe you may be a victim of identity theft.

Once you are enrolled, you will be able to obtain 12 months of unlimited access to your TransUnion credit report and VantageScore® credit score by TransUnion. The daily credit monitoring service will notify you if there are any critical changes to your credit file at TransUnion®, including fraud alerts, new inquiries, new accounts, new public records, late payments, change of address and more. The service also includes the ability to lock and unlock your TransUnion credit report online, access to identity restoration services that provides assistance in the event your identity is compromised to help you restore your identity and up to \$1,000,000 in identity theft insurance with no deductible. (Policy limitations and exclusions may apply.)

You can sign up for the *myTrueIdentity* online Credit Monitoring service anytime between now and [REDACTED]. Due to privacy laws, we cannot register you directly. Please note that credit monitoring services might not be available for individuals who do not have credit file at TransUnion®, or an address in the United States (or its territories) and a valid Social Security number, or are under the age of 18. Enrolling in this service will not affect your credit score.

If you have questions about your *myTrueIdentity* online credit monitoring benefits, need help with your online enrollment, or need help accessing your credit report, or passing identity verification, please contact the *myTrueIdentity* Customer Service Team toll-free at: 1-844-787-4607, Monday-Friday: 8am- 9pm, Saturday-Sunday: 8am-5pm Eastern time.

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 one (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 contacting all three nationwide credit reporting companies at the numbers below and following the stated directions or by sending a request in writing, by mail, to all three credit reporting companies:

Equifax Security Freeze

P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348

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

(800) 349-9960

Experian Security Freeze

P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013

<http://experian.com/freeze>

(888) 397-3742

TransUnion Security Freeze

P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016

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

(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 reporting 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 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 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.