

April 15, 2022

VIA E-MAIL (IDTHEFT@OAG.STATE.MD.US)

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

Re: Incident Notification

Dear Attorney General Frosh:

We are writing on behalf of our client, Great Plains Manufacturing, Inc. ("Great Plains"), to notify you of a security incident involving three Maryland residents.

Great Plains discovered a security incident that involved unauthorized access to its network and a disruption of its business operations. An investigation was conducted to determine what occurred and operations were restored. The investigation determined that an unauthorized party accessed files on one of Great Plains' file servers for a limited period of time. Great Plains then developed a two-phase approach to identify individuals to notify. The first phase consisted of a review of files involved that Great Plains initially identified as likely to contain personal information. Based on that review, Great Plains identified and provided notification to individuals on December 1, 2021.¹ In a parallel track, the second phase consisted of a review of other documents involved, which resulted in a list of additional individuals to notify. After developing that list, Great Plains worked to identify mailing addresses for those individuals and take the other steps necessary to provide notification. Great Plains completed the development of the mailing list for the second phase, at which time Great Plains determined that the personal information of three Maryland residents were involved, including the residents' names and one or more of the following: (1) Social Security number; or (2) driver's license number.

¹ No Maryland residents were identified at that time.

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Beginning today, April 15, 2022, Great Plains is providing written notice to the Maryland residents by mailing a letter via United States Postal Service first-class mail. A sample copy of the notification letter is enclosed. Great Plains is offering notification recipients a complimentary, one-year membership to identity theft protection services provided by Kroll. Great Plains also reported the incident to law enforcement and established a dedicated phone number for notification recipients to call to obtain more information regarding the incident.

To help prevent a similar incident from occurring, Great Plains is taking steps to further enhance its existing security measures.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Craig A. Hoffman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Craig A. Hoffman
Partner

Enclosures



<<Date>> (Format: Month Day, Year)

<<first_name>> <<middle_name>> <<last_name>> <<suffix>>
<<address_1>>
<<address_2>>
<<city>>, <<state_province>> <<postal_code>>
<<country>>

Dear <<first_name>>,

Great Plains Manufacturing recognizes the importance of protecting the personal information we maintain. We are writing to let you know of an incident that involved some of your personal information. This notice explains the incident, the measures we have taken, and some additional steps you may consider taking in response.

We discovered a security incident that involved unauthorized access to our network. An investigation was conducted to determine what occurred and operations were restored. Through the investigation, we determined that the unauthorized party accessed files on one of our servers for a limited period of time. After identifying the specific files involved, we then completed a thorough review of their contents. As a result of that review, we determined the files contained your <<b2b_text_1 (Impacted Data)>>. We then began working to obtain the information necessary to mail this letter to you.

We arranged for you to receive a complimentary one-year membership of identity monitoring services through Kroll. This product includes credit monitoring, a current copy of your credit report, Web Watcher, Public Persona, Quick Cash Scan, \$1 million identity fraud loss reimbursement, fraud consultation, and identity theft restoration services. These services are completely free to you and enrolling in these services will not hurt your credit score. For more information on identity theft prevention, additional steps you can take in response, and instructions on how to activate your complimentary one-year membership, please see the information provided with this letter.

We regret that this incident occurred and apologize for any inconvenience. To help prevent another incident from occurring, we are taking steps to further enhance our existing security measures. If you have any questions about the incident, please call xxx-xxx-xxxx Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Central Time (excluding major U.S. holidays).

Sincerely,

Linda Salem
President & CEO | Great Plains Manufacturing

ACTIVATION INSTRUCTIONS

Visit <https://enroll.krollmonitoring.com> to activate and take advantage of your free identity monitoring services.

You have until << b2b_text_6 (Activation Deadline)>> to activate your identity monitoring services.

Membership Number: <<Membership Number s_n>>

For more information about Kroll and your free Identity Monitoring services, you can visit info.krollmonitoring.com.

If you prefer to activate these services offline and receive monitoring alerts via the US Postal Service, you may activate via Kroll's automated phone system by calling 1-888-653-0511, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Central Time, excluding major U.S. holidays. Please have your membership number located in your letter ready when calling. Please note that to activate monitoring services, you will be required to provide your name, date of birth, and Social Security number through Kroll's automated phone system.



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR IDENTITY MONITORING SERVICES

You have been provided with access to the following services from Kroll:

Triple Bureau Credit Monitoring and Single Bureau Credit Report

Your current credit report is available for you to review. You will also receive alerts when there are changes to your credit data at any of the three national credit bureaus—for instance, when a new line of credit is applied for in your name. If you do not recognize the activity, you will have the option to call a Kroll fraud specialist, who will be able to help you determine if it is an indicator of identity theft.

Web Watcher

Web Watcher monitors internet sites where criminals may buy, sell, and trade personal identity information. An alert will be generated if evidence of your personal identity information is found.

Public Persona

Public Persona monitors and notifies when names, aliases, and addresses become associated with your Social Security number. If information is found, you will receive an alert.

Quick Cash Scan

Quick Cash Scan monitors short-term and cash-advance loan sources. You will receive an alert when a loan is reported, and you can call a Kroll fraud specialist for more information.

\$1 Million Identity Fraud Loss Reimbursement

Reimburses you for out-of-pocket expenses totaling up to \$1 million in covered legal costs and expenses for any one stolen identity event. All coverage is subject to the conditions and exclusions in the policy.

Fraud Consultation

You have unlimited access to consultation with a Kroll fraud specialist. Support includes showing you the most effective ways to help protect your identity, explaining your rights and protections under the law, assistance with fraud alerts, and interpreting how personal information is accessed and used, including investigating suspicious activity that could be tied to an identity theft event.

Identity Theft Restoration

If you become a victim of identity theft, an experienced Kroll licensed investigator will work on your behalf to resolve related issues. You will have access to a dedicated investigator who understands your issues and can do most of the work for you. Your investigator will be able to dig deep to uncover the scope of the identity theft, and then work to resolve it.

Kroll's activation website is only compatible with the current version or one version earlier of Chrome, Firefox, Safari, or Edge.

To receive credit services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file.

ADDITIONAL STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

If your health insurance or medical information was involved, it is also advisable to review the billing statements you receive from your health insurer or healthcare provider. If you see charges for services you did not receive, please contact the insurer or provider immediately.

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 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-800-916-8800

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.ftc.gov/idtheft

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 help 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:

- **Experian Security Freeze**, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com
- **TransUnion Security Freeze**, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com
- **Equifax Security Freeze**, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.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.

Great Plains Manufacturing's mailing address is 1525 E. North Street, Salina, KS 67401, and its phone number is (785) 823-3276.

Additional information for residents of the following states:

Maryland: 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: 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: 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.

West Virginia: 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.