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April 26, 2022

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

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

Re: Utilities Board of the City of Foley (“Riviera Utilities”) – Incident Notification

Dear Mr. Frosh:

McDonald Hopkins PLC represents Utilities Board of the City of Foley (“Riviera Utilities”). I am writing to provide notification of an incident at Riviera Utilities that may affect the security of personal information of approximately fifty-eight (58) Maryland residents. By providing this notice, Riviera Utilities does not waive any rights or defenses regarding the applicability of Maryland law or personal jurisdiction.

Riviera Utilities recently determined that an unauthorized party temporarily obtained access to certain employee email accounts that are maintained by Riviera Utilities. Upon learning of the issue, Riviera Utilities promptly secured the accounts and opened an investigation. As part of its investigation, Riviera Utilities worked closely with external cybersecurity professionals. After an extensive forensic investigation and manual document review exercise, Riviera Utilities determined on March 28, 2022 that the email accounts that were accessed on or about October 17, 2021 contained the personal information of a limited number of individuals. The elements of personal information include full names, Social Security numbers, driver's license or state identification numbers, passport numbers, medical information, health insurance information, credit or debit card numbers, card expiration dates and card CVVs. The elements of personal information varied per individual.

To date, Riviera Utilities is not aware of any reports of identity fraud or improper use of any information as a direct result of this incident. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, Riviera Utilities 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. Riviera Utilities is providing the affected residents with written notification of this incident commencing on or about April 26, 2022 in substantially the same form as the letter attached hereto. Individuals whose Social Security numbers may have been impacted are being provided with twelve months of complimentary credit monitoring services. Riviera Utilities is also advising all affected residents about the process for placing fraud alerts and/or security freezes on their credit

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files and obtaining free credit reports. The affected residents are also being provided with the contact information for the consumer reporting agencies and the Federal Trade Commission.

At Riviera Utilities, protecting the privacy of personal information is a top priority. Riviera Utilities is committed to maintaining the privacy of personal information in its possession and has taken many precautions to safeguard it. Riviera Utilities 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) 220-1356 or dpaluzzi@mcdonaldhopkins.com. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,



Dominic A. Paluzzi

Encl.



Return Mail Processing Center
P.O. Box 6336
Portland, OR 97228-6336

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]:

The privacy and security of the personal information we maintain is of the utmost importance to Riviera Utilities. 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, explain the services we are providing to you, and let you know that we continue to take significant measures to protect your information.

What Happened?

An unauthorized party temporarily obtained access to email accounts that are maintained by Riviera Utilities.

This access did not include the systems storing auto-pay, bank draft data or other personal information. Additionally, any personal information entered and submitted through Riviera's website was unaffected by this security incident.

Please know, we have no evidence that any of your information has been misused.

What We Are Doing.

Upon learning of this issue, we secured the accounts and commenced a prompt and thorough investigation. As part of our investigation, we have worked very closely with external cybersecurity professionals. After an extensive forensic investigation and manual document review, we discovered on March 28, 2022 that the email accounts that were accessed on or about October 17, 2021 contained some of your personal information. Out of an abundance of caution, we want to make you aware of the incident.

What Information Was Involved.

The accessed accounts contained some of your personal information, including your [REDACTED]

What You Can Do.

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 our toll-free response line at [REDACTED]. The response line is available Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Central Time.

Sincerely,

Riviera Utilities

– 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 one year provided by TransUnion Interactive, a subsidiary of TransUnion®, one of the three nationwide credit reporting companies.

To enroll in this service, go to the myTrueIdentity website at www.mytrueidentity.com and in the space referenced as “Enter Activation Code”, enter the following 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.

You can sign up for the online or offline 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 a credit file with TransUnion, or an address in the United States (or its territories) and a valid Social Security number. Enrolling in this service will not affect your credit score.

Once you are enrolled, you will be able to obtain one year of unlimited access to your TransUnion credit report and credit score. The daily credit monitoring service will notify you if there are any critical changes to your credit files at TransUnion®, including fraud alerts, new inquiries, new accounts, new public records, late payments, change of address and more.

The service also includes access to an identity restoration program that provides assistance in the event that 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.)

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-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 105069
Atlanta, GA 30348-5069
<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
Fraud Victim Assistance Department
P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016-2000
<https://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts>
(800) 680-7289

3. Consider 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/>
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
Woodlyn, PA 19094
<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 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 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 **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.

6. Protecting Your Medical Information.

In the event that your medical information was included in the accessed accounts, we have no information to date indicating that it was or will be used for any unintended purposes. As a general matter, however, the following practices can help to protect you from medical identity theft.

- Only share your health insurance cards with your health care providers and other family members who are covered under your insurance plan or who help you with your medical care.
- Review your "explanation of benefits statement" which you receive from your health insurance company. Follow up with your insurance company or care provider for any items you do not recognize. If necessary, contact the care provider on the explanation of benefits statement and ask for copies of medical records from the date of the potential access (noted above) to current date.
- Ask your insurance company for a current year-to-date report of all services paid for you as a beneficiary. Follow up with your insurance company or the care provider for any items you do not recognize.

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.

Iowa Residents: You may contact law enforcement or the Iowa Attorney General's Office to report suspected incidents of identity Theft: Office of the Attorney General of Iowa, Consumer Protection Division, Hoover State Office Building, 1305 East Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50319, www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov, Telephone: (515) 281-5164.

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.

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, Department of Justice, 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.