

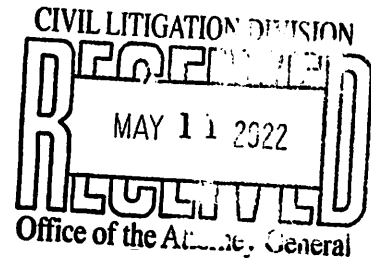


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May 6, 2022

Office of the Attorney General
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202



Dear Sir or Madam:

My client, Regional Eye Associates, Inc. has been informed that their business associate, Eye Care Leaders, used for electronic medical records was the victim of a breach. My client became aware of this breach on March 1, 2022 but was not provided with any details which would allow them to determine if their patients were affected and the extent of the breach. The investigation into the breach is being conducted by Eye Care Leaders and they have provided my client with some updates as to the status of the investigation. At this time, we know that the incident involved an individual who gained access to our vendor's system on December 4, 2021. This individual deleted several databases between the hours of 7:18 p.m. and 10:13 p.m. before being discovered and locked out of the system. At this time, we do not have any evidence which leads us to believe that any personal health information was exfiltrated, but the investigation is ongoing. We also do not have any evidence to specifically show that personal health information was not exfiltrated. Eye Care Leaders has also been unable to provide any details regarding the scope of the breach or the specific personal health information which may have been involved.

Since we cannot guarantee that data has not been exfiltrated, we are proceeding under the assumption that a breach has occurred. As such, we have sent notification letters to all of our patients in three different states, of which 29,989 patients are located in Maryland. We also have provided notification via electronic mail to patients that have consented to receive communication from my client in this format. Media notices have been placed with various outlets and a hotline has been established. We also are continuing to provide updates as we receive them via my client's website.

As previously stated, our third-party vendor is currently conducting an investigation into this breach. We are working closely with them during the forensic investigation. To protect against such breaches in the future, our vendor has implemented technical, administrative, and physical safeguards to protect against future attacks. This includes reviewing and updating access controls, permissions, and data storage security procedures.

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If you have any questions, you can contact me at the address, phone number or e-mail listed on this letter.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Lee K. Goldfarb

Lee K. Goldfarb

LKG/gar