



MULLEN
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May 11, 2022

VIA E-MAIL

Office of the Attorney General
Attn: Security Breach Notification
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
E-mail: idtheft@oag.state.md.us

Re: Notice of Data Event

Dear Sir or Madam:

We represent Reed & Dailey Associates, Inc. (“Reed & Dailey”) located at 475 S Buhl Farm Dr, Hermitage, PA 16148, and are writing to notify your office of an event that may affect the security of certain personal information relating to approximately six (6) Maryland residents. By providing this notice, Reed & Dailey does not waive any rights or defenses regarding the applicability of Maryland law, the applicability of the Maryland data event notification statute, or personal jurisdiction.

Nature of the Data Event

On or around February 21, 2022, Reed & Dailey became aware that an unusually high number of client tax returns were rejected after submission to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (“IRS”). Reed & Dailey immediately investigated this activity, with the assistance of third-party computer forensic specialists, to identify the risk to any information contained within its network, including client information. On or around March 21, 2022, Reed & Dailey determined an unauthorized actor had access to its network between June 2, 2021 and July 21, 2021. The investigation further determined the tax software Reed & Dailey uses was accessed during that window and client tax information was potentially accessible. Since the investigation could not determine what specific data was accessed, Reed & Dailey undertook notification to all clients whose information was potentially contained in the impacted systems during the period of access in an abundance of caution. On April 25, 2022, after receiving updated client address information, Reed & Dailey confirmed this population included six (6) Maryland residents.

The information that could have been subject to unauthorized access includes name, Social Security number, and financial account information.

Notice to Maryland Residents

On March 15, 2022, Reed & Dailey began providing preliminary notice to its potentially affected clients while the investigation was ongoing. On May 11, 2022, Reed & Dailey continued providing written notice of this event to affected individuals including approximately six (6) Maryland residents. Written notice is being provided in substantially the same form as the letter attached hereto as ***Exhibit A***.

Other Steps Taken and To Be Taken

Reed & Dailey moved quickly to investigate its network immediately upon becoming aware of unusual activity related to its clients' tax submissions to confirm the nature of any risk to its network and the information contained thereon. Reed & Dailey further worked to confirm the security of its systems in response to this activity and to identify and notify potentially affected individuals. In addition to working with the IRS, Reed & Dailey notified the Federal Bureau of Investigation regarding the event.

Reed & Dailey is providing access to credit monitoring services for 24 months, through IDX to individuals whose personal information was potentially affected by this event, at no cost to these individuals. Additionally, Reed & Dailey is providing impacted individuals with guidance on how to protect against identity theft and fraud, including advising individuals to report any suspected incidents of identity theft or fraud to their credit card company and/or bank. Reed & Dailey is providing individuals with information on how to place a fraud alert and security freeze on one's credit file, information on protecting against tax fraud, the contact details for the national consumer reporting agencies, information on how to obtain a free credit report, a reminder to remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing account statements and monitoring free credit reports, and encouragement to contact the Federal Trade Commission, their state attorney general, and law enforcement to report attempted or actual identity theft and fraud.

Reed & Dailey is also providing written notice of this event to appropriate state regulators and to the major consumer reporting agencies.

Contact Information

Should you have any questions regarding this notification or other aspects of the data security event, please contact us at (267) 930-4802.

Very truly yours,

Samuel Sica, III of
MULLEN COUGHLIN LLC

SMS/mah
Enclosure

EXHIBIT A

[Reed & Dailey Logo]

<<Return Mail Address>>

<<Name 1>> <<Name 2>>

<<Address 1>>

<<Address 2>>

<<Date>>

<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

<<Country>>

Notice of Data Breach

Dear <<Name 1>> <<Name 2>>:

Reed & Dailey Associates, Inc. ("Reed & Dailey") writes to notify you of a recent event that may impact the security of some of your information. We are providing you with information about the event, our response to it, and resources available to you to help protect your information, should you feel it appropriate to do so.

What Happened? On or about February 21, 2022, Reed & Dailey became aware that an unusually high number of client tax returns were rejected after submission to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service ("IRS"). We immediately investigated this activity to assess the security of our network. The investigation determined an unknown actor was able to access our network between June 2, 2021 and July 21, 2021. We further identified our tax software that contains our client's information was accessed by the unknown actor during this time. The investigation was not able to confirm the precise information accessed; however, we are notifying you in an abundance of caution, as your information was present within the network and was potentially accessible to the unknown actor.

What Information Was Involved? The information accessible to the unknown actor included your name, Social Security number or tax identification number, and financial account information.

What We Are Doing. We take the security of client information entrusted in our care very seriously. Upon becoming aware of the event, we immediately began a comprehensive investigation. We have also been working with our clients to provide resources to assist them in response to the identified activity. We promptly notified federal law enforcement regarding the event and continue to coordinate with the IRS to ensure our client's tax filings are secure. We are also offering complimentary credit monitoring services for 24 months through IDX as an additional precaution. Enrollment instructions are enclosed with this letter.

What You Can Do. Regardless of whether you have had a rejected tax filing, there are several steps you can take to protect yourself from theft and fraud. We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your bank account statements, credit reports, and monitoring your tax return status for suspicious activity and to detect errors. You may also enroll in the IRS's identity protection PIN program, which is summarized in the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Protect Information*. You may also enroll in the complimentary credit monitoring services being offered to you.

For More Information. If you have additional questions, please direct them to Kathy Murphy or to Don Reed, Jr. at reed@reedtax1.com or [\[Reed & Dailey telephone number\]](#). You may also write to Reed & Dailey at [\[mailing address\]](#).

Sincerely,

Reed & Dailey Associates, Inc.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO PROTECT INFORMATION

Enroll in Credit Monitoring

We encourage you to enroll in free IDX identity protection services by going to <https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect> or calling 1-866-329-9984 and using the Enrollment Code: <<XXXXXXXXXX>> IDX representatives are available Monday through Friday from 6 am - 6 pm Pacific Time. Please note the deadline to enroll is August 19, 2022.

1. Website and Enrollment. Go to <https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect> and follow the instructions for enrollment using your Enrollment Code provided at the top of the letter.

2. Activate the credit monitoring provided as part of your IDX identity protection membership. The monitoring included in the membership must be activated to be effective. Note: You must have established credit and access to a computer and the internet to use this service. If you need assistance, IDX will be able to assist you.

If you discover any suspicious items and have enrolled in IDX identity protection, notify them immediately by calling or by logging into the IDX website and filing a request for help.

If you file a request for help or report suspicious activity, you will be contacted by a member of our ID Care team who will help you determine the cause of the suspicious items. In the unlikely event that you fall victim to identity theft as a consequence of this event, you will be assigned an ID Care Specialist who will work on your behalf to identify, stop and reverse the damage quickly.

Monitor Your Accounts

Under U.S. law, a consumer is entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. To order your free credit report, visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of your credit report.

Consumers have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a one-year alert that is placed on a consumer’s credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer’s credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer’s identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one of the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, consumers have the right to place a “credit freeze” on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without the consumer’s express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on your credit report. To request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;
3. Date of birth;
4. Addresses for the prior two to five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill or telephone bill;
6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (state driver’s license or ID card, etc.); and
7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft if you are a victim of identity theft.

Should you wish to place a credit freeze, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/	https://www.experian.com/help/	https://www.transunion.com/credit-help
888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	833-395-6938
Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069	Experian Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016
Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788	Experian Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094

Internal Revenue Service Identity Protection PIN

You may also obtain an Identity Protection PIN (“IP PIN”) from the Internal Revenue Service, a six-digit number that prevents someone else from filing a tax return using your Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number. The IP PIN is known only to you and the IRS, and helps the IRS verify your identity when you file your electronic or paper tax return. Even though you may not have a filing requirement, an IP PIN still protects your account. If you do not already have an IP PIN, you may get an IP PIN as a proactive step to protect yourself from tax-related identity theft either online, by paper application or in-person. Information about the IP PIN program can be found here: <https://www.irs.gov/identity-theft-fraud-scams/get-an-identity-protection-pin>.

Additional Information

You may further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps you can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state attorney general. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580; www.identitytheft.gov; 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. You can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. You have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and your state attorney general. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

For Maryland residents, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at: 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-528-8662 or 1-888-743-0023; and www.oag.state.md.us. Reed & Dailey is located at 475 S Buhl Farm Dr, Hermitage, PA 16148, United States.

For New York residents, the New York Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; or <https://ag.ny.gov/>.