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May 16, 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, Public Employees Credit Union, to notify your office of a cybersecurity incident that involved Maryland residents' personal information. Public Employees Credit Union is located at 306 East 10th Street, Austin, TX 78701.

On April 26, 2022, Public Employees Credit Union identified unauthorized activity within their computer systems. Upon discovery, Public Employees Credit Union took immediate action to contain the incident and began an investigation with the assistance of a cybersecurity firm. The incident was also reported to law enforcement. The investigation determined that an unauthorized party gained access to the computer network and obtained certain files from the network on April 24, 2022. Public Employees Credit Union is analyzing, and continues to analyze, the files involved, but has determined that a file contained the names, addresses, email addresses, telephone numbers, dates of birth, account numbers, account open dates, and Social Security numbers of 18 Maryland residents.

Beginning today, Public Employees Credit Union will be mailing notification letters to the Maryland residents via U.S. First-Class mail in accordance with Md. Code Ann., Com. Law § 14-3504.¹ A sample copy of the notification letter is enclosed. Public Employees Credit Union is

¹ This report does not waive Public Employees Credit Union objection that Maryland lacks regulatory authority over it related to any claims that may arise from this incident.

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offering the Maryland residents one year of complimentary credit monitoring, fraud consultation, and identity theft restoration services through Experian.

To reduce the risk of a similar incident from occurring in the future, Public Employees Credit Union continues to take steps to enhance the security of its network and data maintained.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Patrick Haggerty", is positioned above the printed name.

Patrick H. Haggerty
Partner

Enclosure



<<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>> <<middle_name>> <<last_name>> <<suffix>>,

Public Employees Credit Union is committed to protecting the privacy and security of the personal information we maintain. We are writing to inform you of an incident involving some of that information. This letter explains the incident, measures we have taken, and some steps you may consider taking in response.

On April 26, 2022, we identified unauthorized activity involving our computer systems. We took immediate action to contain the incident and began an investigation with the assistance of a cybersecurity firm. We also reported the incident to law enforcement. The investigation determined that an unauthorized person gained access to our computer network and obtained certain files from our systems on April 24, 2022. We, therefore, analyzed the files involved and subsequently determined that a file contained your name, address, email address, telephone number, date of birth, account number, account open date, and Social Security number.

We recommend that you review your account statements and immediately report any suspicious activity to us. We are offering identity theft protection services through Experian® IdentityWorksSM Credit 3B. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with identity protection services focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft. IdentityWorks is completely free to you and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score. For more information on Experian® IdentityWorksSM Credit 3B, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary membership as well as some additional steps you can take to help protect yourself, please see the additional information provided with this letter.

We deeply regret any inconvenience or concern this may cause and want to assure you that we have and will continue to take steps to enhance the security of our electronic systems and the data we maintain to help prevent events such as this from occurring in the future.

If you have any questions, please call 1-???-???-???, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Central Time, excluding some major U.S. holidays.

Sincerely,

Gary Whitcomb
President/CEO
Public Employees Credit Union

Activate IdentityWorks In Three Easy Steps

1. ENROLL by: <<b2b_text_6 (Deadline)>> (Your code will not work after this date.)
2. VISIT the **Experian IdentityWorks website** to enroll: [URL]
3. PROVIDE the **Activation Code**: <<Activation Code s_n>>

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with Identity Restoration that arose as a result of this incident or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at [phone number]. Be prepared to provide engagement number <<b2b_text_1 (Engagement #)>> as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services by Experian.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 12 MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS MEMBERSHIP:

A credit card is **not** required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks.

You can contact Experian **immediately without needing to enroll in the product** regarding any fraud issues. Identity Restoration specialists are available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.

Once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks, you will have access to the following additional features:

- **Experian credit report at signup:** See what information is associated with your credit file. Daily credit reports are available for online members only.*
- **Credit Monitoring:** Actively monitors Experian file for indicators of fraud.
- **Identity Restoration:** Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARE™:** You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **\$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance**:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

Activate your membership today at <https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit> or call [phone number] to register with the activation code above.

What you can do to protect your information: There are additional actions you can consider taking to reduce the chances of identity theft or fraud on your account(s). Please refer to www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration for this information. If you have any questions about IdentityWorks, need help understanding something on your credit report or suspect that an item on your credit report may be fraudulent, please contact Experian's customer care team at [phone number].

* Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling.

** The Identity Theft Insurance is underwritten and administered by American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida, an Assurant company. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions.

ADDITIONAL STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

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 over the next 12-24 months. 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 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.

PECU is located at 306 East 10th Street, Austin, TX 78701 and can be reached at 800.772.1955.

Additional Information for Residents of the Following States

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

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>
- New York State Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341, 1-800-771-7755, <https://ag.ny.gov>

Rhode Island: Under Rhode Island law, you have the right to file and obtain a copy of a police report. You also have the right to request a security freeze, as described above. You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: Rhode Island Attorney General's Office, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, 1-401-274-4400, www.riag.ri.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.

A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act: The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Your major rights under the FCRA are summarized below. For more information, including information about additional rights, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

- You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.
- You have the right to know what is in your file.
- You have the right to ask for a credit score.
- You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.
- Consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information.
- Consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information.
- Access to your file is limited.
- You must give your consent for reports to be provided to employers.
- You may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.
- You have a right to place a "security freeze" on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization.
- You may seek damages from violators.
- Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have additional rights.