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December 22, 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, The Robins & Morton Group, to notify your office of a cybersecurity incident that involved seven Maryland residents' information. Robins & Morton is headquartered at 400 Shades Creek Parkway, Birmingham, AL 35209.

On October 17, 2022, Robins & Morton identified unauthorized activity within its computer systems. Robins & Morton 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 obtained files from the network between October 16 and October 17, 2022. Robins & Morton analyzed the files involved and, on December 6, 2022, determined that a file contained the name and Social Security number of seven Maryland residents.

On December 22, 2022, Robins & Morton will be mailing a notification letter to all seven Maryland residents via First-Class mail in accordance with Md. Code Ann., Com. Law § 14-3504.¹ A copy of the notification is enclosed. Robins & Morton is offering these Maryland residents one year of credit monitoring, fraud consultation, and identity theft restoration services by Cyberscout.

¹ This report does not waive Robins & Morton's objection that Maryland lacks regulatory authority over it related to any claims that may arise from this incident.

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Robins & Morton has also established a dedicated call center for individuals to call with questions about the incident.

To reduce the risk of a similar incident from occurring in the future, Robins & Morton continues to take steps to enhance the security of its network.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Patrick Haggerty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Patrick" and last name "Haggerty" clearly distinguishable.

Patrick H. Haggerty
Partner

December 22, 2022

Dear [REDACTED]

Robins & Morton 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.

We first identified unauthorized activity involving our computer systems on October 17, 2022. Upon discovery, 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 some of our systems and acquired copies of certain files from our systems between October 16, 2022 and October 17, 2022. We analyzed the files involved and, on December 6, 2022, determined that a file contained your name and Social Security number.

We are offering you access to Triple Bureau Credit Monitoring services at no charge. These services provide you with alerts for twelve months from the date of enrollment when changes occur to any of one of your Experian, Equifax, or TransUnion credit files. These services will be provided by Cyberscout through Identity Force, a TransUnion company specializing in fraud assistance and remediation services.

To enroll please log on to <https://secure.identityforce.com/benefit/robinsmorton> and follow the instructions provided. When prompted please provide the following unique code to receive services: [REDACTED]. In order to receive the monitoring services described above, you must enroll by March 22, 2023. The enrollment requires an internet connection and e-mail account and may not be available to minors under the age of 18 years of age. Please note that when signing up for monitoring services, you may be asked to verify personal information for your own protection to confirm your identity.

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 computer systems to help prevent events such as this from occurring in the future.

If you have any questions, please call 1-833-570-2542, Monday through Friday, from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Eastern time, excluding some major U.S. holidays.

Sincerely,



Aimee Comer
Vice President of People and Development

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.identitytheft.gov

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 is because most creditors need to see your credit report before they approve a new account. If they cannot 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:

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

You will 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.

Robins & Morton is located at 400 Shades Creek Pkwy, Birmingham, AL 35209, and can be reached at (205) 870-1000.

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

Rhode Island: This incident involves 2 individuals in 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 NW, 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.