

January 20, 2023

Via E-Mail: Idtheft@oag.state.md.us

Attorney General Brian E. Frosh

Office of the Attorney General

Identity Theft Unit

200 St. Paul Place

Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear Attorney General Frosh:

The undersigned represents Whiteford Taylor & Preston LLP (“WTP”), a law firm with its principal place of business at 7 St Paul St #1900, Baltimore, MD 21202. We write to inform your office of a recent data security incident, described in more detail below. WTP takes the security and privacy of the information in its control seriously and has taken steps to prevent a similar incident from occurring in the future.

I. Description of the Incident

On or about May 11, 2022, WTP became aware of a potential unauthorized access into one of its email accounts (“Incident”). This may have resulted in some information being acquired by an unknown third party. Since becoming aware of the unauthorized access, WTP worked diligently to determine what happened and what information was potentially involved as a result of this incident. A third-party forensic investigation determined the incident occurred between April 11, 2022 and May 11, 2022.

The investigation determined that the following elements of personal information of Louisiana residents were potentially accessed and/or acquired by an unauthorized individual: names, addresses, dates of birth, Social Security numbers and health information. The elements of personal information that may have been compromised as a result of this Incident varies per individual.

As of this writing, WTP has not received any reports of fraud or identity theft related to this matter.

II. Number of Maryland Residents Affected.

WTP discovered that the Incident may have resulted in the unauthorized exposure of information pertaining to 445 residents of Maryland, a complete list is attached as **Exhibit A.** Notification letters to these individuals are to be mailed on January 20, 2023, via First Class

Mail. Sample notification letters identical to the notification letters sent to all of the affected Maryland resides are attached as **Exhibit B.**

III. Steps Taken.

WTP takes the security of information that its clients entrust in it very seriously. Upon discovery, WTP immediately secured the email account in question and took steps to prevent further unauthorized access. WTP also engaged a third-party digital forensics investigator to conduct an exhaustive investigation of this matter. As part of WTP's ongoing commitment to the security of personal information in its care, WTP is working to implement additional safeguards and security measures to enhance the privacy and security of information in their systems.

IV. Contact Information.

WTP remains dedicated to protecting the sensitive information within its control. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at maryam.meseha@fisherbroyles.com or (609) 250 – 2405.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Maryam M. Meseha

Maryam Meseha, Esq., Partner

FISHERBROYLES, LLP

Exhibit B

Whiteford, Taylor & Preston, LLP
c/o Cyberscout
P.O. Box 3923
Syracuse, NY 13220

WHITEFORD, TAYLOR & PRESTON L.L.P.

Via First-Class Mail



January 20, 2023

Notice of Data Incident

Dear [REDACTED]:

This letter is to inform you that Whiteford Taylor & Preston LLP ("WTP") experienced a data security incident which may have affected some of your personal information. At present, there is no evidence that any your personal information has been misused; however, out of an abundance of caution, we are notifying you of this incident and offering you the resources discussed below so that should you wish to, you can take steps to protect yourself.

WTP is a law firm and in that capacity, we receive information from our clients. We take the protection and proper use of your information seriously and sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this incident may cause.

What Happened?

On or about May 11, 2022, WTP became aware of a potential unauthorized access into the WTP email account of one of our Trusts and Estates attorneys, despite our robust multi-factor authentication and other security measures and safeguards. This may have resulted in some of your information being acquired by an unknown third party. Since becoming aware of the unauthorized access, we have worked diligently to determine what happened and what information was potentially involved as a result of this incident. A third-party forensic investigation determined the incident occurred between April 11, 2022 and May 11, 2022.

What Information Was Involved?

The types of information that may have been compromised was different for each individual, but may have included your: name, address, date of birth, social security number, certain banking information and certain health information. Please note that there is no evidence at this time that any of your personal information has been misused as a result of the incident.

What Are We Doing?

We take the security of information that our clients entrust in us very seriously. Upon discovery, we immediately secured the email account in question and took steps to prevent further unauthorized access. We also engaged a third-party digital forensics investigator to conduct an exhaustive investigation of this matter, and filed a report with the FBI. As part of our ongoing commitment to the security of personal information in our care, we are working to implement additional safeguards and security measures to enhance the privacy and security of information in our systems. In addition to providing this notice to you, we are providing notice to privacy regulators and other parties as required.

We want to make sure you have the information you need so that you can take steps to help protect yourself from identity theft. We encourage you to remain vigilant and to regularly review and monitor relevant account statements and credit reports and report suspected incidents of identity theft to local law enforcement, your state's Attorney General, or the Federal Trade Commission (the "FTC"). We have included more information on these steps in this letter.

What Can You Do?

Complimentary Identity Protection and Credit Monitoring Services

In response to the incident, we are providing you with access to Triple Bureau Credit Monitoring services at no charge. These services provide you with alerts for twelve (12) months from the date of enrollment when changes occur to any of one of your Experian, Equifax or TransUnion credit files. This notification is sent to you the same day that the change or update takes place with the bureau. In addition, we are providing you with proactive fraud assistance to help with any questions that you might have or in event that you become a victim of fraud. These services will be provided by Cyberscout through Identity Force, a TransUnion company specializing in fraud assistance and remediation services.

How do I enroll for the free services?

To enroll in Credit Monitoring services at no charge, please log on to <https://secure.identityforce.com/benefit/wtpllc> and follow the instructions provided. When prompted please provide the following unique code to receive services: KWTY226NN3 In order for you to receive the monitoring services described above, you must enroll within 90 days from the date of this letter. 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.

What Else Can You Do?

In addition to enrolling in the complimentary identity theft protection services being offered, you can review the enclosed *Additional Important Information* for additional information on how to protect against identify theft and fraud.

For More Information

On behalf of WTP, please accept my sincere apology for this isolated incident and any inconvenience it may cause you. WTP values its relationship with its clients and others who provide us with information.

I can assure you that we are taking steps intended to prevent an incident like this from reoccurring and protect you and your information, now and in the future.

Representatives are available for 90 days from the date of this letter, to assist you with questions regarding this incident, between the hours of 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Please call the help line at 1-800-405-6108 and supply the fraud specialist with your unique code listed above.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. F. Martino", is positioned above a horizontal blue line.

Bruce F. Martino, Esq.
Director of Privacy, Data Security and Compliance

Whiteford, Taylor & Preston L.L.P.
Seven Saint Paul Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202-1636

Additional Important Information

For residents of Hawaii, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming: It is recommended by state law that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity.

For residents of Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Oregon, and West Virginia:

It is required by state laws to inform you that you may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies. To order your free credit report, please visit www.annualcreditreport.com, or call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228. You can also order your annual free credit report by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports>) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281.

For residents of Vermont: If you do not have internet access but would like to learn more about how to place a security freeze on your credit report, contact the Vermont Attorney General's Office at 802-828-3171 (800-649-2424 toll free in Vermont only).

For residents of New Mexico: Individuals interacting with credit reporting agencies have rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage you to review your rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/bcfrp_consumer-rights-summary_2018-09.pdf, or by requesting information in writing from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

For Residents of Washington, D.C.: You can obtain information about steps to take to avoid identity theft from the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia at: 400 6th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001; 202-727-3400; www.oag.dc.gov.

For residents of Iowa: State law advises you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

For residents of Oregon: State laws advise you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, including the Attorney General, and the Federal Trade Commission.

For residents of Maryland, Rhode Island, Illinois, New York, and North Carolina: You can obtain information from the Maryland and North Carolina Offices of the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft

Maryland Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection Division, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202 1-888-743-0023 www.oag.state.md.us

Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903 1-401-274-4400 www.riag.ri.gov

North Carolina Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001 1-877-566-7226 www.ncdoj.com

Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW Washington, DC 20580 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338) www.ftc.gov/idtheft

New York Office of Attorney General Consumer Frauds & Protection, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224 1-800-771-7755 <https://ag.ny.gov/consumer-frauds/identity-theft>

For residents of Massachusetts and Rhode Island: It is required by state law that you are informed of your right to obtain a police report if you are a victim of identity theft.

For residents of all states:

Fraud Alerts: You can place fraud alerts with the three credit bureaus by phone and online with Equifax (https://assets.equifax.com/assets/personal/Fraud_Alert_Request_Form.pdf); TransUnion (<https://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts>); or Experian (<https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html>). A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you, before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit. As of September 21, 2018, initial fraud alerts last for one year. Victims of identity theft can also get an extended fraud alert for seven years. The phone numbers for all three credit bureaus are at the bottom of this page.

Monitoring: You should always remain vigilant and monitor your accounts for suspicious or unusual activity.

Security Freeze: You also have the right to place a security freeze on your credit report. A security freeze is intended to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. To place a security freeze on your credit report, you need to make a request to each consumer reporting agency. You may make that request by certified mail, overnight mail, regular stamped mail, or by following the instructions found at the websites listed below. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse or a minor under the age of 16, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, display your name and current mailing address, and the date of issue. As of September 21, 2018, it is free to place, lift, or remove a security freeze. You may also place a security freeze for children under the age of 16. You may obtain a free security freeze by contacting any one or more of the following national consumer reporting agencies:

Equifax Security Freeze

P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348
equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/
1-888-Equifax (1-888-378-4329)

Experian Security Freeze

P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
experian.com/freeze/center.html
1-888-397-3742

TransUnion Security Freeze

P.O. Box 160
Woodlyn, PA 19094
transunion.com/credit-freeze
1-833-395-6938

More information can also be obtained by contacting the Federal Trade Commission listed above.

Whiteford, Taylor & Preston, LLP
c/o Cyberscout
P.O. Box 3923
Syracuse, NY 13220

WHITEFORD, TAYLOR & PRESTON L.L.P.

Via First-Class Mail



January 20, 2023

Notice of Data Incident

Dear [REDACTED]:

This letter is to inform you that Whiteford Taylor & Preston LLP ("WTP") experienced a data security incident which may have affected some of your personal information, including some privileged and confidential legal information. At present, there is no evidence that any of your personal information has been misused; however, out of an abundance of caution, we are notifying you of this incident and offering you the resources discussed below so that you can take precautionary steps to protect yourself, should you wish to do so.

WTP is a law firm and in that capacity, we receive information from our clients. We take the protection and proper use of your information seriously and sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this incident may cause. This notification was not delayed by law enforcement.

What Happened?

On or about May 11, 2022, WTP became aware of a potential unauthorized access into the WTP email account of one of our Trusts and Estates attorneys, despite our robust multi-factor authentication and other security measures and safeguards. This may have resulted in some of your information being acquired by an unknown third party. Since becoming aware of the unauthorized access, we have worked diligently to determine what happened and what information was potentially involved as a result of this incident. A third-party forensic investigation determined that the incident occurred between April 11, 2022 and May 11, 2022.

What Information Was Involved?

The types of information that may have been compromised was different for each individual, but may have included your: name, address, date of birth, social security number, certain banking information and certain health information. In addition, some privileged and confidential communications may have been compromised. Please note that there is no evidence at this time that any of your personal information or any WTP client privileged and confidential legal information has been misused as a result of the incident.

What Are We Doing?

We take the security of information that our clients entrust in us very seriously. Upon discovery, we immediately secured the email account in question and took steps to prevent further unauthorized access. We also engaged a third-party digital forensics investigator to conduct an exhaustive investigation of this matter and filed a report with the FBI. As part of our ongoing commitment to the security of personal information in our care, we are working to implement additional safeguards and security measures to enhance the privacy and security of information in our systems. In addition to providing this notice to you, we are providing notice to privacy regulators and other parties as required.

We want to make sure you have the information you need so that you can take steps to help protect yourself from identity theft. We encourage you to remain vigilant and to regularly review and monitor relevant account statements and credit reports and report suspected incidents of identity theft to local law enforcement, your state's Attorney General, or the Federal Trade Commission (the "FTC"). We have included more information on these steps in this letter.

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It is required by state laws to inform you that you may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies. To order your free credit report, please visit www.annualcreditreport.com, or call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228. You can also order your annual free credit report by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports>) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281.

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1-888-Equifax (1-888-378-4329)

Experian Security Freeze
P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
experian.com/freeze/center.html
1-888-397-3742

TransUnion Security Freeze
P.O. Box 160
Woodlyn, PA 19094
transunion.com/credit-freeze
1-833-395-6938

More information can also be obtained by contacting the Federal Trade Commission listed above.