

February 14, 2023

**Via E-Mail** (idtheft@oag.state.md.us)

Office of the Attorney General  
Attn: Security Breach Notification  
200 St. Paul Place  
Baltimore, MD 21202

To Whom It May Concern:

In accordance with Md. Code Ann., Com. Law § 14-3504, I am writing on behalf of News Corporation ("News Corp") to notify you regarding the nature and circumstances of a recent data security issue.

On January 20, 2022, News Corp discovered cyberattack activity on a system used by several News Corp businesses. As soon as it became aware of the activity, News Corp notified U.S. law enforcement and launched an investigation with the assistance of Mandiant, a leading cybersecurity firm. As part of its efforts, News Corp promptly took steps to contain the activity. The investigation indicated that News Corp and certain of its businesses appeared to have been the subject of persistent nation-state attack activity that targeted a limited number of personnel. Based on the investigation, News Corp understands that, between February 2020 and January 2022, the unauthorized party gained access to certain business documents and emails stored in the affected system. Following a complex and detailed analysis of the affected business documents and emails, conducted with the assistance of third-party e-discovery experts, News Corp recently determined that some of these business documents and emails contained personal information of Maryland residents including names, Social Security numbers, passport numbers, driver's license numbers, and certain medical information. There



To date, News Corp has identified approximately 19 Maryland residents whose personal information was affected by this issue. News Corp has arranged to offer these individuals identity protection and credit monitoring services through Experian for 24 months at no cost

Office of the Attorney General

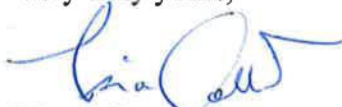
February 14, 2023

Page 2

to them. Attached for your reference is a sample of the notice being sent to the affected Maryland residents.

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

Very truly yours,



Lisa J. Sotto

Enclosure



[date]

[Name]

[Address]

[City], [State] [ZIP]

## NOTICE OF DATA BREACH

Dear [Name],

We are writing to notify you of an issue that involves certain personal information of yours.

### What Happened?

On January 20, 2022, News Corp discovered cyberattack activity on a business email and document storage system used by several News Corp businesses. As soon as we became aware of the activity, we notified U.S. law enforcement and launched an investigation with the assistance of a leading cybersecurity firm. Based on the investigation, News Corp understands that, between February 2020 and January 2022, an unauthorized party gained access to certain business documents and emails from a limited number of its personnel's accounts in the affected system, some of which contained personal information. Our investigation indicates that this activity does not appear to be focused on exploiting personal information. We are not aware of reports of identity theft or fraud in connection with this issue. We nonetheless are providing you notice of this issue because the investigation has determined that some of your personal information was contained in the relevant materials.

### What Information Was Involved?

The affected personal information may have included one or more of the following: your name, date of birth, Social Security number, driver's license number, passport number, financial account information, medical information, and health insurance information. Not all of this information was impacted for each affected individual.

### What We Are Doing

As indicated above, as soon as we became aware of the activity, we notified U.S. law enforcement and launched an investigation with the assistance of a leading cybersecurity firm. We also promptly took steps to contain the activity. Based on the investigation to date, we have no evidence of ongoing unauthorized access to our systems.

### What You Can Do

We take our obligation to safeguard personal information very seriously and are alerting you about this issue so you can take steps to help protect yourself. You are entitled under U.S. law to one free credit report annually from each of the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies. To order your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228. We encourage you to remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements and monitoring your free credit reports.

In addition, we have arranged to offer you identity protection and credit monitoring services for 24 months through Experian at no cost to you. We recommend that you enroll in the complimentary credit monitoring service. You will have access to the following features once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks:

- **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.

\* 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.

The attached Reference Guide provides information on activation and recommendations by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission on the protection of personal information.

### **For More Information**

If you have any questions regarding this issue, please contact [nc-privacypolicy@newscorp.com](mailto:nc-privacypolicy@newscorp.com) or 1-833-704-9387.

We regret that this issue has involved you and hope this information is useful to you.

Sincerely,

News Corporation

## Reference Guide

We encourage affected individuals to take the following steps:

**Register for Identity Protection and Credit Monitoring Services.** We have arranged with Experian to offer you complimentary identity protection and credit monitoring services for twenty-four (24) months. If you believe there was fraudulent use of your information as a result of this incident and would like to discuss how you may be able to resolve those issues, please reach out to an Experian agent. Please note that Identity Restoration is available to you for 24 months from the date of this letter and does not require any action on your part at this time. The Terms and Conditions for this offer are located at [www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration](http://www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration).

While identity restoration assistance is immediately available to you, we also encourage you to activate the fraud detection tools available through Experian IdentityWorks as a complimentary 24-month membership. This product provides you with superior identity detection and resolution of identity theft. To start monitoring your personal information, please follow the steps below:

- Ensure that you **enroll by May 31, 2023** (Your code will not work after this date.)
- **Visit** the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: [www.experianidworks.com/credit](http://www.experianidworks.com/credit)
- Provide your **activation code**: **[Activation Code]**

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 **(833) 420-2831** by **May 31, 2023**. Be prepared to provide engagement number **B082369** as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.

**Order Your Free Credit Report.** To order your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228, or complete the Annual Credit Report Request Form on the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's ("FTC's") website at [www.consumer.ftc.gov](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov) and mail it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281. The three nationwide consumer reporting agencies provide free annual credit reports only through the website, toll-free number or request form. When you receive your credit report, review it carefully. Look for accounts you did not open. Look in the "inquiries" section for names of creditors from whom you haven't requested credit. Some companies bill under names other than their store or commercial names. The consumer reporting agency will be able to tell you when that is the case. Look in the "personal information" section for any inaccuracies in your information (such as home address and Social Security number). If you see anything you do not understand, call the consumer reporting agency at the telephone number on the report. Errors in this information may be a warning sign of possible identity theft. You should notify the consumer reporting agencies of any inaccuracies in your report, whether due to error or fraud, as soon as possible so the information can be investigated and, if found to be in error, corrected. If there are accounts or charges you did not authorize, immediately notify the appropriate consumer reporting agency by telephone and in writing. Consumer reporting agency staff will review your report with you. If the information cannot be explained, then you will need to call the creditors involved. Information that cannot be explained also should be reported to your local police or sheriff's office because it may signal criminal activity.

**Report Incidents.** If you detect any unauthorized transactions in a financial account, promptly notify your payment card company or financial institution. If you detect any incident of identity theft or fraud, promptly report the incident to law enforcement, the FTC and your state Attorney General. If you believe your identity has been stolen, the FTC recommends that you take these steps:

- Close the accounts that you have confirmed or believe have been tampered with or opened fraudulently. For streamlined checklists and sample letters to help guide you through the recovery process, please visit <https://www.identitytheft.gov/>.
- File a local police report. Obtain a copy of the police report and submit it to your creditors and any others that may require proof of the identity theft crime.

You can contact the FTC to learn more about how to protect yourself from becoming a victim of identity theft and how to repair identity theft:

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

**Consider Placing a Fraud Alert on Your Credit File.** To protect yourself from possible identity theft, consider placing a fraud alert on your credit file. A fraud alert helps protect you against the possibility of an identity thief opening new credit accounts in your name. When a merchant checks the credit history of someone applying for credit, the merchant gets a notice that the applicant may be the victim of identity theft. The alert notifies the merchant to take steps to verify the identity of the applicant. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by calling any one of the toll-free numbers provided below. You will reach an automated telephone system that allows you to flag your file with a fraud alert at all three consumer reporting agencies. For more information on fraud alerts, you also may contact the FTC as described above.

|            |                                                                          |                |                    |
|------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Equifax    | Equifax Information Services LLC<br>P.O. Box 740241<br>Atlanta, GA 30374 | 1-800-525-6285 | www.equifax.com    |
| Experian   | Experian Inc.<br>P.O. Box 9554<br>Allen, TX 75013                        | 1-888-397-3742 | www.experian.com   |
| TransUnion | TransUnion LLC<br>P.O. Box 2000<br>Chester, PA 19016                     | 1-800-680-7289 | www.transunion.com |

**Consider Placing a Security Freeze on Your Credit File.** You may wish to place a “security freeze” (also known as a “credit freeze”) on your credit file. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential creditors from accessing your credit file at the consumer reporting agencies without your consent. *Unlike a fraud alert, you must place a security freeze on your credit file at each consumer reporting agency individually.* There is no charge to place or lift a security freeze. For more information on security freezes, you may contact the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies or the FTC as described above. As the instructions for establishing a security freeze differ from state to state, please contact the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies to find out more information. The consumer reporting agencies may require proper identification prior to honoring your request. For example, you may be asked to provide:

- Your full name with middle initial and generation (such as Jr., Sr., II, III)
- Your Social Security number
- Your date of birth
- Addresses where you have lived over the past five years
- A legible copy of a government-issued identification card (such as a state driver’s license or military ID card)
- Proof of your current residential address (such as a current utility bill or account statement)

**For New York Residents.** You can obtain information from the New York State Office of the Attorney General about how to protect yourself from identity theft and tips on how to protect your privacy online. You can contact the New York State Office of the Attorney General at:

Office of the Attorney General  
The Capitol  
Albany, NY 12224-0341  
1-800-771-7755 (toll-free)  
1-800-788-9898 (TDD/TTY toll-free line)  
<https://ag.ny.gov/>

Bureau of Internet and Technology (BIT)  
28 Liberty Street  
New York, NY 10005  
Phone: (212) 416-8433  
<https://ag.ny.gov/internet/resource-center>

**For Washington, D.C. Residents.** You may obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia at:

Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia  
441 4th Street NW  
Suite 1100 South  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
(202) 727-3400  
<https://oag.dc.gov/>