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February 24, 2023

VIA E-MAIL (IDTHEFT@OAG.STATE.MD.US)

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

Re: Incident Notification

Dear Attorney General Brown:

We are writing on behalf of our client, Grandfield & Dodd, LLC (“Grandfield & Dodd”) to notify your office of a cybersecurity incident that involved two Maryland residents’ information. Grandfield & Dodd is located at 40 Wall Street #4700, New York, NY 10005.

Grandfield & Dodd completed an investigation into an incident involving unauthorized access to an employee’s email account. Upon learning of the unauthorized access, Grandfield & Dodd took steps to secure the email account and commenced an investigation. A cybersecurity firm was engaged to assist.

The evidence showed that there was unauthorized access to the email account between October 19, 2022, and October 20, 2022. A review was conducted of the emails and attachments that could have been accessed or viewed during this period of unauthorized access and, on January 25, 2023, it was determined that an email or attachment contained the name and Social Security number of two Maryland residents.

On February 24, 2023, Grandfield & Dodd mailed notification letters to the Maryland residents whose information is involved pursuant to Md. Code Ann., Com. Law § 14-3504.¹ The letter is being sent via United States Postal Service First-Class mail, and a copy is enclosed.

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

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Grandfield & Dodd is offering the Maryland residents one year of complimentary credit monitoring, fraud consultation, and identity theft restoration services through IDX.

To help prevent something like this from happening again, Grandfield & Dodd is taking steps to enhance its existing security measures.

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

Sincerely,

Ryan M. Christian, Sr.

Ryan M. Christian, Sr.
Counsel

Grandfield & Dodd, LLC

40 Wall Street, 47th Floor
New York, New York 10005

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To Enroll, Please Call:

1-800-939-4170

Or Visit:

<https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect>

Enrollment Code: []

February 22, 2023

Dear :

Grandfield & Dodd, LLC recognizes the importance of protecting information. We are writing to inform you of an incident that may have involved some of your information. This notice explains the incident, the measures we have taken in response, and some additional steps you may consider taking.

We completed an investigation into an incident involving unauthorized access to an employee's email account. Upon learning of the unauthorized access, we took steps to secure the email account and commenced an investigation. A cybersecurity firm was engaged to assist. We reviewed the emails and attachments that could have been accessed or viewed during this period of unauthorized access and, on January 25, 2023, determined that an email or attachment contained your name and Social Security number.

We are offering you credit monitoring and identity protection services through the company IDX at no cost to you. These identity protection services include one year of credit and CyberScan monitoring, a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed identity theft recovery services. These services are completely free to you and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score. **For more information on the services, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary membership, please visit <https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect> or call 1-800-939-4170 and use the Enrollment Code provided above. Please note the deadline to enroll is October 1, 2023.** For more information on identity protection and steps you can take in response, please see the additional information provided with this letter.

We regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause. To help protect against an incident like this happening again, we are taking steps further to enhance our existing security measures.

Sincerely,

G&D PM

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. 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, 1-888-378-4329
- *Experian*, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742
- *TransUnion*, PO Box 1000, 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 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:

- *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 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094, www.transunion.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.

Grandfield & Dodd, LLC is located at 40 Wall St. #4700, New York, NY 10005 and can be reached at (212) 477 - 9626

Additional information for residents of the following states:

Connecticut: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: Connecticut Attorney General's Office, 165 Capitol Ave, Hartford, CT 06106, 1-860-808-5318, www.ct.gov/ag

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>