

CIPRIANI & WERNER

A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

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May 11, 2023

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

Office of the Attorney General
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

RE: Data Incident Notification

To Whom It May Concern:

We serve as counsel for Val Verde Unified School District ("Val Verde"), located at 21100 Oleander Ave., Perris, CA 92570 and write to inform you of a data security incident. By providing this notice, Val Verde does not waive any rights or defenses under Maryland law, including the data breach notification statute.

On or about May 10, 2022, Val Verde experienced a network disruption that impacted certain systems. Upon discovery, Val Verde immediately secured its network and engaged a third-party forensic firm to investigate the incident. On March 20, 2023, following a thorough investigation, Val Verde determined that certain personal information related to five (5) Maryland residents was potentially subject to unauthorized access. The information potentially at risk includes first and last names in combination with a Social Security number.

On May 11, 2023, Val Verde sent written notice of this incident to the potentially impacted Maryland residents pursuant to Maryland state law. The notice letters included an offer of complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services for twelve (12) months. The notice letters sent to individuals is substantially similar to the letter attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

Very truly yours,



Hilary Higgins, Esq.
CIPRIANI & WERNER, P.C.

Exhibit A



Return Mail to IDX
P.O. Box 1907
Suwanee, GA 30024

To Enroll, Please Call:
1-888-567-0289
Or Visit:
[https://app.idx.us/account-
creation/protect](https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect)
Enrollment Code: <<Enrollment Code>>

<<Full Name>>
<<Address 1>>
<<Address 2>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

May 11, 2023

<<Variable Data 2: Re: Notice of Data Breach>>

Dear <<Full Name>>:

We are writing to inform you of a potential data security incident experienced by our school that may have involved your information as described below. We take the privacy and security of all information in our care very seriously and are providing information about the incident and steps you can take to help protect your information.

What Happened: On or about May 10, 2022, we experienced a network disruption that impacted certain systems. Upon discovery, we took immediate action to address and investigate the incident, which included engaging third-party specialists to assist with determining the nature and scope of the incident. A thorough investigation determined that limited information maintained on our network may have been accessed by an unauthorized actor between January 22, 2022 and May 10, 2022. We then began a review of the contents of the data to determine the type of information contained within our files and to whom that information related. On January 11, 2023, our initial review was completed, and we then worked to locate accurate address information in order to provide you with this notice. Our address review was recently completed on March 20, 2023.

What Information Was Involved: The types of information that may have been contained within the potentially affected data includes your first and last name, in combination with your <<Variable Data 1: Data Elements>>. Please note that we currently have no reason to believe that your information has been or will be misused as a result of this incident.

What We Are Doing: We have taken the steps necessary to address the incident and are committed to fully protecting all of the information that you have entrusted to us. Upon learning of this incident, we immediately took steps to secure our environment and undertook a thorough investigation. We have also implemented additional technical safeguards to further enhance the security of information in our possession and to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future. Additionally, we are offering you complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services through IDX. IDX identity protection services include: <<12 / 24>> months of credit and CyberScan monitoring, a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed id theft recovery services. With this protection, IDX will help you resolve issues if your identity is compromised.

What You Can Do: We recommend that you remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your credit reports/account statements for suspicious activity and to detect errors. If you discover any suspicious or unusual activity on your accounts, please promptly contact the financial institution or company. We have provided additional information below, which contains more information about steps you can take to help protect yourself against fraud and identity theft.

For More Information: Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact our dedicated assistance line which can be reached at 1-888-567-0289, Monday through Friday from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm Pacific Time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark R. McManis", written over a horizontal line.

Superintendent
Val Verde Unified School District

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

Credit Monitoring Instructions

1. Website and Enrollment. Go to <https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect> and follow the instructions for enrollment using your Enrollment Code provided at the top of the letter. Please note the enrollment deadline is August 11, 2023.

2. Activate the credit monitoring provided as part of your IDX identity protection membership. The monitoring included in the membership must be activated to be effective. Note: You must have established credit and access to a computer and the internet to use this service. If you need assistance, IDX will be able to assist you.

3. Telephone. Contact IDX at 1-888-567-0289 to gain additional information about this event and speak with knowledgeable representatives about the appropriate steps to take to protect your credit identity.

Monitor Your Accounts

We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your credit reports/account statements and explanation of benefits forms for suspicious activity and to detect errors. Under U.S. law, you are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, TransUnion, Experian, and Equifax. To order your free credit report, visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call 1-877-322-8228. Once you receive your credit report, review it for discrepancies and identify any accounts you did not open or inquiries from creditors that you did not authorize. If you have questions or notice incorrect information, contact the credit reporting bureau.

You have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a one-year alert that is placed on a consumer’s credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer’s identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any of the three credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, you have the right to place a “credit freeze” on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without your express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on your credit report. To request a credit freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;
3. Date of birth;
4. Address for the prior two to five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility or telephone bill;
6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (e.g., state driver’s license or identification card); and
7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft, if you are a victim of identity theft.

Should you wish to place a fraud alert or credit freeze, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

TransUnion 1-800-680-7289 www.transunion.com TransUnion Fraud Alert P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016-2000 TransUnion Credit Freeze P.O. Box 160 Woodlyn, PA 19094	Experian 1-888-397-3742 www.experian.com Experian Fraud Alert P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 Experian Credit Freeze P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013	Equifax 1-888-298-0045 www.equifax.com Equifax Fraud Alert P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069 Equifax Credit Freeze P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788
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Additional Information

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps you can take to protect your personal information by contacting the credit reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), or your state Attorney General. The FTC also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. The FTC may be reached at 600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; www.identitytheft.gov; 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261.

You have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement, your state Attorney General, and the FTC. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

For Maryland residents, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-888-743-0023; and www.oag.state.md.us. Val Verde Unified School District may be contacted at 975 W Morgan Street, Perris, CA 92571.

For New Mexico residents, you have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in your credit file has been used against you, the right to know what is in your credit file, the right to ask for your credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act: (i) the consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; (ii) the consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; (iii) access to your file is limited; (iv) you must give consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; (v) you may limit “prescreened” offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report; (vi) and you may seek damages from violators. You may have additional rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act not summarized here. Identity theft victims and active-duty military personnel have specific additional rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage you to review your rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504_cfpb_summary_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf, or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, FTC, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

For New York residents, the New York Attorney General may be contacted at Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; or <https://ag.ny.gov>.

For North Carolina residents, the North Carolina Attorney General may be contacted at 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; and www.ncdoj.gov.

For Washington, D.C. residents, the District of Columbia Attorney General may be contacted at 441 4th Street NW #1100, Washington, D.C. 20001; 202-727-3400, and <https://oag.dc.gov/consumer-protection>. Val Verde Unified School District may be contacted at 975 W Morgan Street, Perris, CA 92571.