

**Dominic A. Paluzzi**  
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August 24, 2023

**VIA EMAIL: Idtheft@oag.state.md.us**

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

**Re: Erie Materials, Inc. – Incident Notification**

To Whom It May Concern:

McDonald Hopkins PLC represents Erie Materials, Inc. (“Erie Materials”) of Syracuse, New York. I am writing to provide notification of an incident that may affect the security of personal information of two (2) Maryland residents. By providing this notice, Erie Materials does not waive any rights or defenses regarding the applicability of Maryland law or personal jurisdiction.

Erie Materials recently determined that on or about June 7, 2023, an unauthorized party accessed a limited number of electronic records from its systems. Upon detecting the incident, Erie Materials immediately commenced a prompt and thorough investigation with assistance from external cybersecurity professionals.

After an extensive forensic investigation and manual document review, Erie Materials discovered on or about July 25, 2023 that the impacted files contain personal information pertaining to a limited number of Maryland residents, such as full names, dates of birth, Social Security numbers, and driver's license or state identification numbers. The specific elements of information varied per individual.

Erie Materials has no indication that any of the information has been used for identity theft or financial fraud. Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution, Erie Materials wanted to inform your Office of the incident and to explain the steps that it is taking to help safeguard the affected residents against identity fraud.

Erie Materials is providing the affected residents with written notification of this incident commencing on or about August 24, 2023 in substantially the same form as the letter attached hereto. Individuals whose Social Security numbers were involved will be offered complimentary credit monitoring services. Erie Materials will advise the affected residents to always remain vigilant in reviewing financial account statements for fraudulent or irregular activity on a regular

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basis. Additionally, the affected residents will also be provided with the contact information for the consumer reporting agencies and the Federal Trade Commission.

At Erie Materials, protecting the privacy of personal information is a top priority. Erie Materials is committed to maintaining the privacy of personal information in its possession and has taken many precautions to safeguard it.

Should you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact me at (248) 220-1356 or [dpaluzzi@mcdonaldhopkins.com](mailto:dpaluzzi@mcdonaldhopkins.com). Thank you for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,



Encl.

Dominic A. Paluzzi

# EXHIBIT A



Return Mail to IDX:  
4145 SW Watson Avenue, Suite 400  
Beaverton, OR 97005

[REDACTED]

Enrollment Code: [REDACTED]

To Enroll, Scan the QR Code Below:



Or Visit:

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

August 24, 2023

[REDACTED]

Dear [REDACTED]

The privacy and security of the personal information entrusted to us is of the utmost importance to Erie Materials Inc. ("Erie Materials"). We are writing to inform you of a recent incident which involves the security of some of your personal information. We wanted to provide you with information about the incident, explain the services we are making available to you, and let you know that we continue to take significant measures to protect your information.

What Happened?

On or about June 7, 2023, an unauthorized party accessed a limited number of electronic records from our system.

What We Are Doing.

Upon learning of this issue, we immediately commenced a prompt and thorough investigation. As part of our investigation, we have been working very closely with external cybersecurity professionals experienced in handling these types of incidents.

What Information Was Involved?

After an extensive forensic investigation and manual document review, we concluded on or about July 25, 2023 that one or more of the files accessed by the unauthorized party on or about June 7, 2023 potentially contained your [REDACTED]

What You Can Do.

**We have no evidence that any of your information has been or will be misused.** Nevertheless, out of an abundance of caution and to protect you from potential misuse of your information, we are offering identity theft protection services through IDX, A ZeroFox Company, the data breach and recovery services expert. IDX identity protection services include: [REDACTED] months of credit and CyberScan monitoring, an insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed id theft recovery services. With this protection, IDX will help you resolve issues if your identity is compromised.

This letter also provides other precautionary measures you can take to protect your personal information, including placing a Fraud Alert and/or Security Freeze on your credit files, and/or obtaining a free credit report. Additionally, you should

always remain vigilant in reviewing your financial account statements and credit reports for fraudulent or irregular activity on a regular basis.

*For More Information.*

Maintaining the privacy of personal information in our possession has always been a high priority and we have taken many precautions to safeguard it. We continually evaluate and modify our practices and internal controls to enhance the security and privacy of personal information entrusted to us.

**If you have any further questions regarding this incident, please call our dedicated and confidential toll-free response line that we have set up to respond to questions at 1-800-939-4170.** This response line is staffed with professionals familiar with this incident and knowledgeable on what you can do to protect against misuse of your information. The response line is available Monday through Friday, 9 am – 9 pm Eastern Time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Chris M. Neumann", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Christopher M. Neumann  
President

**– OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION –**

**1. Enrolling in Complimentary [REDACTED] months Credit Monitoring.**

We encourage you to contact IDX with any questions and to enroll in free identity protection services by calling 1-800-939-4170, going to <https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect>, or scanning the QR image and using the Enrollment Code provided above. IDX representatives are available Monday through Friday from 9 am - 9 pm Eastern Time. Please note the deadline to enroll is November 24, 2023.

**2. Placing a Fraud Alert.**

Whether or not you choose to use the complimentary [REDACTED] month credit monitoring services, we recommend that you place an initial 90-day “Fraud Alert” on your credit files (if one exists), at no charge. A fraud alert tells creditors to contact you personally before they open any new accounts. To place a fraud alert, call any one of the three major credit bureaus at the numbers listed below. As soon as one credit bureau confirms your fraud alert, they will notify the others.

***Equifax***

P.O. Box 105069  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5069  
<https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts/>  
(800) 525-6285

***Experian***

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
<https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html>  
(888) 397-3742

***TransUnion***

Fraud Victim Assistance  
Department  
P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016-2000  
<https://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts>  
(800) 680-7289

**3. Consider Placing a Security Freeze on Your Credit File.**

If you are very concerned about becoming a victim of fraud or identity theft, you may request a “Security Freeze” be placed on your credit file at no cost. A security freeze prohibits, with certain specific exceptions, the consumer reporting agencies from releasing your credit report or any information from it without your express authorization. You may place a security freeze on your credit report by sending a request in writing, by mail, to all three nationwide credit reporting companies. To find out more on how to place a security freeze, you can use the following contact information:

***Equifax Security Freeze***

P.O. Box 105788  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788  
<https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/>  
(888)-298-0045

***Experian Security Freeze***

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
<http://experian.com/freeze>  
(888) 397-3742

***TransUnion Security Freeze***

P.O. Box 160  
Woodlyn, PA 19094  
<https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze>  
(888) 909-8872

In order to place the security freeze, 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 reporting company will send you a confirmation letter containing 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.

If you do place a security freeze prior to enrolling in the credit monitoring service as described above, you will need to remove the freeze in order to sign up for the credit monitoring service. After you sign up for the credit monitoring service, you may refreeze your credit file.

**4. Obtaining a Free Credit Report.**

Under federal law, you are entitled to one free credit report every 12 months from each of the above three major nationwide credit reporting companies. Call **1-877-322-8228** or request your free credit reports online at **[www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)**. Once you receive your credit reports, review them for discrepancies. Identify any accounts you did not open or inquiries from creditors that you did not authorize. Verify all information is correct. If you have questions or notice incorrect information, contact the credit reporting company.

## 5. **Additional Helpful Resources.**

Even if you do not find any suspicious activity on your initial credit reports, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends that you check your credit reports periodically. Checking your credit report periodically can help you spot problems and address them quickly.

If you find suspicious activity on your credit reports or have reason to believe your information is being misused, call your local law enforcement agency and file a police report. Be sure to obtain a copy of the police report, as many creditors will want the information it contains to absolve you of the fraudulent debts. You may also file a complaint with the FTC by contacting them on the web at [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft), by phone at 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338), or by mail at Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. Your complaint will be added to the FTC's Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse, where it will be accessible to law enforcement for their investigations. In addition, you may obtain information from the FTC about fraud alerts and security freezes.

**California Residents:** Visit the California Office of Privacy Protection ([www.oag.ca.gov/privacy](http://www.oag.ca.gov/privacy)) for additional information on protection against identity theft. Office of the Attorney General of California, 1300 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, Telephone: 1-800-952-5225.

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

**Maryland Residents:** You may obtain information about avoiding identity theft from the Maryland Attorney General's Office: Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, Consumer Protection Division, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, <https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>, Telephone: 1-888-743-0023.

**North Carolina Residents:** You may obtain information about preventing identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office: Office of the Attorney General of North Carolina, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, [www.ncdoj.gov/](http://www.ncdoj.gov/), Telephone: 1-877-566-7226.