

Fisher Broyles

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October 4, 2023

Via Email (idtheft@oag.state.md.us)

Office of the Attorney General

Attn: Security Breach Notification

200 St. Paul Place

Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Notice of Data Breach

Dear Sir or Madam:

This firm represents Allison & Allison CPA (the “Company”). Enclosed please find the *Notice of Data Breach* with respect to a security incident involving the Company’s information.

It was determined that between March 2, 2023, and April 5, 2023, an unauthorized user gained access to an Allison & Allison CPA email account. During this time, various illegitimate mailbox activities were conducted by the unauthorized user, including the download of the affected mailbox and sending fraudulent phishing emails. Based on a thorough investigation of the data, it was determined that information related to individuals’ first name, last name, bank account, date of birth, medical history, IRS PIN, taxpayer identification number, driver’s license number, medical insurance ID, diagnostic & medical treatment information, username & password, and in some limited cases, Social Security number may have been accessed.

Personal information belonging to 9 Maryland residents was contained in files within the mailbox and potentially accessed by an unauthorized third party. The Company provided direct notice to the impacted Maryland residents on or about September 13, 2023. A draft of the notification letters being sent to Maryland residents is attached as Exhibit A. The notification outlines the nature of the incident, the steps that the Company took to remediate the incident and offers complimentary identify protection and credit monitoring services to the affected individuals. The letter also contains specific instructions for enrolling in the free services previously described.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me directly at (614) 245-8418 or at edmund.brown@fisherbroyles.com.

Sincerely,

Edmund F. Brown

Edmund F. Brown, Partner
FisherBroyles, LLP

Allison & Allison
Certified Public Accountants A.C.

Return Mail Processing
PO Box 999
Suwanee, GA 30024

4986 West Washington Street
Cross Lanes, WV 25313
304-776-6118

3 1 510 *****ALL FOR AADC 250
SAMPLE A. SAMPLE - L01



APT ABC
123 ANY ST
ANYTOWN, US 12345-6789



September 13, 2023

RE: Important Security Notification. Please read this entire letter.

Dear Sample A. Sample:

Allison & Allison CPA recently discovered an incident that may affect the security of your personal information. We take our data security responsibilities seriously and want to provide you with information about the incident, steps we are taking in response, and steps you may take to guard against identity theft and fraud, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

What Happened? Between March 2, 2023, and April 5, 2023, an unauthorized user gained access to an Allison & Allison CPA email account. During this time, various illegitimate mailbox activities were conducted by the unauthorized user, including the download of the affected mailbox and sending fraudulent phishing emails.

What Information Was Involved? Based on a thorough investigation of the data, it was determined that information related to individuals' first name, last name, bank account, date of birth, medical history, IRS PIN, taxpayer identification number, driver's license number, medical insurance ID, diagnostic & medical treatment information, username & password, and in some limited cases, Social Security number may have been accessed.

What Are We Doing? We take the protection of your personal information seriously and are taking steps to prevent a similar occurrence. Following the incident, the account was secured, malicious inbox rules were removed, and Multi-Factor Authentication was implemented within the email environment.

To help protect your identity, we are offering complimentary access to Experian IdentityWorksSM for 12 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. If, after discussing your situation with an agent, it is determined that identity restoration support is needed then an Experian Identity Restoration agent is available to work with you to investigate and resolve each incident of fraud that occurred from the date of the incident (including, as appropriate, helping you with contacting credit grantors to dispute charges and close accounts; assisting you in placing a freeze on your credit file with the three major credit bureaus; and assisting you with contacting government agencies to help restore your identity to its proper condition).

Please note that Identity Restoration is available to you for 12 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.

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 12-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** October 31, 2023 (Your code will not work after this date.)
- **Visit** the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: <https://www.experianidworks.com/credit>
- Provide your **activation code**: **ABCDEFGHI**

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 833-671-0411 by October 31, 2023. Be prepared to provide engagement number B099961 as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 12-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS MEMBERSHIP

A credit card is not required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks. You can contact Experian immediately regarding any fraud issues, and 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.

For More Information. We sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern caused by this incident. If you have further questions or concerns, or would like an alternative to enrolling online, please call 833-671-0411 toll-free Monday through Friday from 8 am – 10 pm Central, or Saturday and Sunday from 10 am – 7 pm Central (excluding major U.S. holidays). Be prepared to provide your engagement number B099961.

Sincerely,



Mr. Allison
President

* 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.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Contact information for the three nationwide credit reporting agencies:

Equifax, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, www.equifax.com, 1-800-685-1111

Experian, PO Box 2104, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742

TransUnion, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-800-888-4213

Free Credit Report. It is recommended that you remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity, especially activity that may indicate fraud and identity theft. You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies.

To order your annual free credit report please visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call toll free at **1-877322-8228**.

You can also order your annual free credit report by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available from the U.S. Federal Trade Commission's ("FTC") website at www.consumer.ftc.gov) to:

Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

For Colorado, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and Vermont residents: You may obtain one or more (depending on the state) additional copies of your credit report, free of charge. You must contact each of the credit reporting agencies directly to obtain such additional report(s).

Fraud Alerts. There are two types of 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 at least one year. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft and you have the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by contacting any of the three national credit reporting agencies.

Security Freeze. You have the ability to place a security freeze, also known as a credit freeze, on your credit report free of charge.

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 may use an online process, an automated telephone line, or submit a written request to any of the three credit reporting agencies listed above. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that, if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse, 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 5 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, and display your name, current mailing address, and the date of issue.

Federal Trade Commission and State Attorneys General Offices. 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 home state. You may also contact these agencies for information on how to prevent or minimize the risks of identity theft.

You may contact the **Federal Trade Commission**, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580, www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338).

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

For North Carolina residents: You may contact the North Carolina Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, www.ncdoj.gov, 1-877566-7226.

For 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/>.

For Connecticut residents: You may contact the Connecticut Office of the Attorney General, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106, 1-860-808-5318, www.ct.gov/ag.

For Massachusetts residents: You may contact the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General, 1 Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02108, 1-617-727-8400, www.mass.gov/ago/contact-us.html

Reporting of identity theft and obtaining a police report.

For Iowa residents: You are advised to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Iowa Attorney General.

For Massachusetts residents: You have the right to obtain a police report if you are a victim of identity theft.

For Oregon residents: You are advised to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, the Federal Trade Commission, and the Oregon Attorney General.

From: [Allison & Allison CPA](#)
To: [Valdez, Armando](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] [TEST] Important Security Notification. Please read this entire letter
Date: Friday, September 15, 2023 11:32:26 AM

External email: Do not click the links. Verify legitimacy before taking action.



September 15, 2023

RE: Important Security Notification. Please read this entire letter.

Dear Mando Valdez:

Allison & Allison CPA recently discovered an incident that may affect the security of your personal information. We take our data security responsibilities seriously and want to

provide you with information about the incident, steps we are taking in response, and steps you may take to guard against identity theft and fraud, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

What Happened?

Between March 2, 2023, and April 5, 2023, an unauthorized user gained access to an Allison & Allison CPA email account. During this time, various illegitimate mailbox activities were conducted by the unauthorized user, including the download of the affected mailbox and sending fraudulent phishing emails.

What Information Was Involved?

Based on a thorough investigation of the data, it was determined that information related to individuals' first name, last name, bank account, date of birth, medical history, IRS PIN, taxpayer identification number, driver's license number, medical insurance ID, diagnostic & medical treatment information, username & password, and in some limited cases, Social Security number may have been accessed.

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To help protect your identity, we are offering complimentary access to Experian IdentityWorksSM for 12 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. If, after discussing your situation with an agent, it is determined that identity restoration support is needed then an Experian Identity Restoration agent is available to work with you to investigate and resolve each incident of fraud that occurred from the date of the incident (including, as appropriate, helping you with contacting credit grantors to dispute charges and close accounts; assisting you in placing a freeze on your credit file with the three major credit bureaus; and assisting you with contacting government agencies to help restore your identity to its proper condition).

Please note that Identity Restoration is available to you for 12 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.

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complimentary 12-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** October 31, 2023 (Your code will not work after this date.)
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<https://www.experianidworks.com/credit>
- Provide your **activation code**: GR9HB2YXW

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 833-671-0411 by October 31, 2023. Be prepared to provide engagement number B099961 as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.

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- **Identity Restoration:** Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
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- **\$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance**:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

For More Information

We sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern caused by this incident. If you have further questions or concerns, or would like an alternative to enrolling online, please call 833-671-0411 toll-free Monday through Friday from 8 am – 10 pm Central, or Saturday and Sunday from 10 am – 7 pm Central (excluding major U.S. holidays). Be prepared to provide your engagement number B099961.

Sincerely,



Mr. Allison, President
Allison & Allison CPA

* 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.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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Experian, PO Box 2104, Allen, TX 75013, <http://www.experian.com>, 1-888-397-3742

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Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

For Colorado, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, and Vermont residents: You may obtain one or more (depending on the state) additional copies of your credit report, free of charge. You must contact each of the credit reporting agencies directly to obtain such additional report(s).

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stays on your credit report for at least one year. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft and you have the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by contacting any of the three national credit reporting agencies.

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Federal Trade Commission and State Attorneys General Offices. 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 home state. You may also contact these agencies for information on how to prevent or minimize the risks of identity theft.

You may contact the **Federal Trade Commission**, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580, www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338).

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For North Carolina residents: You may contact the North Carolina Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, www.ncdoj.gov, 1-877-566-7226.

For 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/>.

For Connecticut residents: You may contact the Connecticut Office of the Attorney

General, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106, 1-860-808-5318, www.ct.gov/ag.

For Massachusetts residents: You may contact the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General, 1 Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02108, 1-617-727-8400, www.mass.gov/ago/contact-us.html

Reporting of identity theft and obtaining a police report

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