

# BakerHostetler

## Baker&Hostetler LLP

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December 13, 2023

### VIA EMAIL (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, Barbara Treadwell LLC (“Barbara Treadwell”), to provide notice to your office concerning a security incident involving Maryland residents.

On August 4, 2023, Barbara Treadwell launched an investigation into suspicious activity originating from an employee’s email account. Upon discovering the activity, immediate steps were taken to secure the account and an investigation was launched. Barbara Treadwell could not rule out the possibility that emails and attachments in the account may have been accessed or acquired during the incident. Out of an abundance of caution, Barbara Treadwell reviewed the files that may have been involved, and on November 9, 2023, determined that an email or attachment contained the name, date of birth, Social Security number, driver’s license number, financial account number, and/or limited medical information of four Maryland residents.

On December 11, 2023, Barbara Treadwell mailed notification letters to the Maryland residents via First Class mail in accordance with Md. Code Ann., Com. Law § 14-3504.<sup>1</sup> A copy of the notification letter is attached. Barbara Treadwell is providing the Maryland residents one year of credit monitoring, fraud consultation, and identity theft restoration services through Kroll. Barbara Treadwell has also established a dedicated, toll-free call center that individuals can call to obtain more information regarding the incident.

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<sup>1</sup> This report does not waive Barbara Treadwell’s objection that Maryland lacks personal jurisdiction over Barbara Treadwell related to this matter.

December 13, 2023

Page 2

To help prevent something like this from happening again, Barbara Treadwell is implementing additional measures to enhance already existing security protocols.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Scott Koller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

M. Scott Koller  
Partner

Attachment

New York



Savannah

**BARBARA TREADWELL**  
CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™

<<first\_name>> <<middle\_name>> <<last\_name>> <<suffix>>

<<address\_1>>

<<address\_2>>

<<city>>, <<state\_province>> <<postal\_code>>

<<country>>

<<Date>> (Format: Month Day, Year)

Dear <<first\_name>> <<middle\_name>> <<last\_name>> <<suffix>>:

We are writing to notify you that Barbara Treadwell LLC (“Barbara Treadwell”) experienced a security incident that may have involved some of your personal information. Barbara Treadwell is registered with American Portfolios Financial Services, Inc. (“American Portfolios”) for the sale of securities products and provision of financial advice. This letter explains the incident, outlines the measures we have taken, and provides steps you can take in response.

**What Happened?**

On August 4, 2023, we launched an investigation into suspicious activity in an employee’s email account. As soon as we became aware of the activity, we took immediate steps to secure the account and launched an investigation. Our investigation could not rule out the possibility that emails and attachments in the account may have been accessed or acquired during the incident, so we are notifying you out of an abundance of caution. Please note, this incident did not involve American Portfolios’ computer systems or data. Furthermore, your advisor has experienced no disruptions in servicing your account.

**What Information Was Involved?**

The account contained an email or attachment that may have included your information, including your <<b2b\_text\_1 (name and data variables)>>.

**What We Are Doing.**

Your confidence and trust are important to us, and we regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause. To further help protect your information, we have implemented additional measures to enhance our existing security protocols. Additionally, if you so choose, we have arranged to provide identity monitoring at no cost to you for one year through Kroll. The identity monitoring services we are making available to you include credit monitoring, fraud consultation, and identity theft restoration. For more information on identity theft prevention and Kroll Identity Monitoring, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary membership, please visit the below website and see the additional information provided with this letter.

Visit <https://enroll.krollmonitoring.com> to activate and take advantage of your identity monitoring services.

You have until <<b2b\_text\_6 (activation date)>> to activate your identity monitoring services.

Membership Number: <<Membership Number s\_n>>

**BARBARA TREADWELL, LLC**  
11 Houston Street, Savannah, GA 31401  
office 912.236.1704, mobile 912.247.8548, fax 912.236.4025  
website [www.barbaratreadwell.com](http://www.barbaratreadwell.com), email [barbara@barbaratreadwell.com](mailto:barbara@barbaratreadwell.com)

Securities offered through American Portfolios Financial Services, Inc. (APFS) Member FINRA/SIPC. Investment advisory services offered through American Portfolios Advisors, Inc. (APA), an SEC Registered Investment Advisor  
Barbara Treadwell, LLC is not affiliated with APFS and APA.

ELN-20427

**What You Can Do.**

We encourage you to remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements and credit reports for any unauthorized activity over the next 12 to 24 months. If you see unauthorized charges or activity, please contact your financial institution immediately. For more information, including some additional steps you can take to help protect your information, please see the pages that follow this letter.

**Questions and/or Concerns.**

We sincerely regret this incident occurred and apologize for any inconvenience. If you have any questions, please call (866) 846-6546, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Eastern Time, excluding major U.S. holidays.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Barbara Treadwell', with a large, stylized initial 'B' and a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Barbara Treadwell  
Financial Planner



## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR IDENTITY MONITORING SERVICES

You have been provided with access to the following services from Kroll:

### Single Bureau Credit Monitoring

You will receive alerts when there are changes to your credit data—for instance, when a new line of credit is applied for in your name. If you do not recognize the activity, you'll have the option to call a Kroll fraud specialist, who will be able to help you determine if it is an indicator of identity theft.

### Fraud Consultation

You have unlimited access to consultation with a Kroll fraud specialist. Support includes showing you the most effective ways to protect your identity, explaining your rights and protections under the law, assistance with fraud alerts, and interpreting how personal information is accessed and used, including investigating suspicious activity that could be tied to an identity theft event.

### Identity Theft Restoration

If you become a victim of identity theft, an experienced Kroll licensed investigator will work on your behalf to resolve related issues. You will have access to a dedicated investigator who understands your issues and can do most of the work for you. Your investigator will be able to dig deep to uncover the scope of the identity theft, and then work to resolve it.

Kroll's activation website is only compatible with the current version or one version earlier of Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Edge.

To receive credit services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file.

## 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 over the next 12 to 24 months. 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](http://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](http://www.equifax.com), 1-888-378-4329
- *Experian*, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com), 1-888-397-3742
- *TransUnion*, PO Box 1000, Chester, PA 19016, [www.transunion.com](http://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](http://www.identitytheft.gov)

### Fraud Alerts and Credit or 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:

- **Experian Security Freeze**, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)
- **TransUnion Security Freeze**, PO Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094, [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)
- **Equifax Security Freeze**, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.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.

Barbara Treadwell LLC's address is 11 Houston Street, Savannah, GA 31401 and its phone number is 912-236-1704.

**Additional information for residents of the following states:**

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, <https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>

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>

North Carolina: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *North Carolina Attorney General's Office*, 9001 Mail Service Centre, Raleigh, NC 27699, 1-919-716-6000 / 1-877-566-7226, [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov)

Rhode Island: This incident involves 1 individual in Rhode Island. Under Rhode Island law, you have the right to file and obtain a copy of a police report. You also have the right to request a security freeze, as described above. You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *Rhode Island Attorney General's Office*, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, 1-401-274-4400, [www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov)