



MULLEN  
COUGHLIN<sub>LLC</sub>  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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426 W. Lancaster Avenue, Suite 200  
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January 8, 2024

**VIA E-MAIL**

Office of the Attorney General  
Attn: Security Breach Notification  
200 St. Paul Place  
Baltimore, MD 21202  
E-mail: [idtheft@oag.state.md.us](mailto:idtheft@oag.state.md.us)

**Re: Notice of Data Event**

To Whom It May Concern:

We represent Butte School District (“Butte SD”) located at 111 N. Montana Street, Butte, Montana 59701, and are writing to notify your office of an incident that may affect the security of certain personal information relating to one (1) Maryland resident. The investigation into this matter is ongoing, and this notice will be supplemented with any new significant facts learned subsequent to its submission. By providing this notice, Butte SD does not waive any rights or defenses regarding the applicability of Maryland law, the applicability of the Maryland data event notification statute, or personal jurisdiction.

**Nature of the Data Event**

On or about November 4, 2023, Butte SD became aware of suspicious activity on its computer network. Butte SD immediately launched an investigation, with the assistance of cyber incident response specialists, to determine the nature and scope of the activity. The investigation determined that an unauthorized actor gained access to Butte SD’s network on November 4, 2023, and copied a limited number of files containing information related to current and former Butte SD employees. In response, Butte SD undertook a thorough review of the impacted files to identify individuals whose information was present therein and quickly identified that personal information related to current and former Butte SD employees was contained therein. This review, which was completed on December 4, 2023, determined that information related to a Maryland resident was present in the impacted files. Butte SD then proceeded with notification to its potentially affected current and former Butte SD employees, out of an abundance of caution, while continuing to review potentially affected files to identify whether any additional individuals require notification. This report will be updated if additional impacted Maryland residents are identified in the course of same.

The information that could have been subject to unauthorized access includes name, Social Security number and, for certain individuals, personal bank account information.

### **Notice to Maryland Resident**

On or about December 19, 2023, Butte SD provided written notice of this incident to one (1) Maryland resident. Written notice is being provided in substantially the same form as the letter attached here as ***Exhibit A***.

### **Other Steps Taken and To Be Taken**

Upon discovering the event, Butte SD moved quickly to investigate and respond to the incident, assess the security of Butte SD systems, and identify potentially affected individuals. Further, Butte SD notified federal law enforcement regarding the event. Butte SD is also working to implement additional safeguards and training to its employees. Butte SD is providing access to credit monitoring services for one (1) year, through Experian, to individuals whose personal information was potentially affected by this incident, at no cost to these individuals.

Additionally, Butte SD is providing impacted individuals with guidance on how to better protect against identity theft and fraud, including advising individuals to report any suspected incidents of identity theft or fraud to their credit card company and/or bank. Butte SD is also providing individuals with information on how to place a fraud alert and security freeze on one's credit file, the contact details for the national consumer reporting agencies, information on how to obtain a free credit report, a reminder to remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing account statements and monitoring free credit reports, and encouragement to contact the Federal Trade Commission, their state attorney general, and law enforcement to report attempted or actual identity theft and fraud.

Butte SD is providing written notice of this incident to relevant state regulators, as necessary, and to the three major credit reporting agencies, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion.

### **Contact Information**

Should you have any questions regarding this notification or other aspects of the data security event, please contact us at (267) 930-4801.

Very truly yours,

Alexander T. Walker of  
MULLEN COUGHLIN LLC

ATW/jlt  
Enclosure

# **EXHIBIT A**



Return Mail Processing  
PO Box 999  
Suwanee, GA 30024

111 \*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*MIXED AADC 300

SAMPLE A. SAMPLE - L01

APT ABC



123 ANY ST

ANYTOWN, US 12345-6789



December 19, 2023

Re: Notice of Security Incident

Dear Sample A. Sample:

Butte School District (“Butte SD”) is writing to inform you of a recent incident that may involve some of your information. We are providing you with information about the event, our response, and steps you may take to better protect against the possibility of identity theft and fraud, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

**What Happened?** On or about November 4, 2023, Butte SD became aware of suspicious activity on our computer network. We immediately launched an investigation, with the assistance of cyber incident response specialists, to determine the nature and scope of the activity. Our investigation learned that an unauthorized actor gained access to our network on November 4, 2023 and copied certain files containing information related to current and former Butte SD employees.

**What Information Was Involved?** Our review to date of the involved files indicates that the following types of current employee information may have been impacted: name, address, date of birth, Social Security number and, to the extent you utilized direct deposit for your paycheck while employed by Butte SD, personal bank account information.

**What We Are Doing.** We want to assure you that the privacy and security of information in our care is one of our top priorities. Upon learning of the event, we immediately took steps to secure our systems and conducted an investigation to confirm the nature and scope of the activity and determine who may be affected. Additionally, while we have safeguards in place to protect data in our care, we are working to review and further enhance these protections as part of our ongoing commitment to data security. We also reported this event to federal law enforcement and government regulators.

As an added precaution, we are also offering you 12 months of credit monitoring and identity restoration services at no cost to you through Experian. Details of the services offered and instructions on how to enroll are enclosed with this letter.

**What You Can Do.** We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your account statements and monitoring your credit reports for suspicious activity and to detect errors. Please review the enclosed *Steps You May Take to Help Protect Personal Information* for useful information on what you can do to better protect against possible misuse of your information. You may also enroll in the free credit monitoring services we have provided for you.

**For More Information.** If you have additional questions, you may our call center at 833-420-2823 (toll free), Monday through Friday, 9 am – 9 pm Eastern, excluding U.S. holidays. Please be prepared to provide engagement number B111808.

Sincerely,

*Judy Jonart*

Judy Jonart  
Superintendent  
Butte School District

## *Steps You May Take to Help Protect Personal Information*

### **Enroll in Credit Monitoring Services**

To help protect your identity, we are offering complimentary access to Experian IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup> 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](http://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 March 31, 2024** (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 833-420-2823 by March 31, 2024. Be prepared to provide engagement number **B111808** 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<sup>TM</sup>:** You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **\$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance<sup>\*\*</sup>:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

\* 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.

## **Monitor Your Accounts**

Under U.S. law, a consumer is entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. To order a free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. Consumers may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of their credit report.

Consumers have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is placed on a consumer’s credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer’s credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer’s identity before extending new credit. If consumers are the victim of identity theft, they are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should consumers wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any of the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, consumers 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 the consumer’s express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in a consumer’s name without consent. However, consumers should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in their credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application they make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, consumers cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on their credit report. To request a credit freeze, individuals may need to provide some or all of the following information:

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

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

| <b>Equifax</b>                                                                                                                  | <b>Experian</b>                                                             | <b>TransUnion</b>                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/">https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/</a> | <a href="https://www.experian.com/help/">https://www.experian.com/help/</a> | <a href="https://www.transunion.com/credit-help">https://www.transunion.com/credit-help</a> |
| 1-888-298-0045                                                                                                                  | 1-888-397-3742                                                              | 1-800-916-8800                                                                              |
| Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069<br>Atlanta, GA 30348-5069                                                                  | Experian Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013                        | TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016                                    |
| Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 105788<br>Atlanta, GA 30348-5788                                                                | Experian Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013                      | TransUnion Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094                                   |

## **Additional Information**

Consumers may further educate themselves regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps they can take to protect their personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or their state attorney general. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov); 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. Consumers can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Consumers have the right to file a police report if they ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, consumers will likely need to provide some proof that they have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and the relevant state attorney general. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

*For District of Columbia residents*, the District of Columbia Attorney General may be contacted at: 400 6th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001; 202-727-3400; and [oag.dc.gov](http://oag.dc.gov).

*For Maryland residents*, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at: 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-576-6300 or 1-888-743-0023; and <https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>.

*For New Mexico residents*, consumers have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in their credit file has been used against them, the right to know what is in their credit file, the right to ask for their credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the consumer reporting bureaus must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to consumers' files is limited; consumers must give consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; consumers may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance based on information in their credit report; and consumers may seek damages from violators. Consumers 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 consumers to review their rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting [www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\\_cfpb\\_summary\\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504_cfpb_summary_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf), or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 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](http://www.ncdoj.gov).