

January 9, 2024

Jennifer S. Stegmaier
312.821.6167 (direct)
Jennifer.Stegmaier@wilsonelser.com

Via Email

Attorney General Brian Frosh
Office of the Attorney General
Attn: Security Breach Notification
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
IDTheft@oag.state.md.us

Re: Cybersecurity Incident Involving Cooke, Lavender, Massey & Company

Dear Attorney General Frosh:

Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman and Dicker LLP (“Wilson Elser”) represents Cooke, Lavender, Massey & Company (“CLMC”), a CPA firm located at 2001 S Main Street, Suite 6, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060, with respect to a recent cybersecurity incident that was first discovered by CLMC on August 9th, 2023 (hereinafter, the “Incident”). CLMC takes the security and privacy of the information in its control very seriously, and has taken steps to prevent a similar incident from occurring in the future.

This letter will serve to inform you of the nature of the Incident, what information may have been compromised, the number of Maryland residents being notified, and the steps that CLMC has taken in response to the Incident. We have also enclosed hereto a sample of the notification made to the potentially impacted individuals, which includes an offer of free credit monitoring services.

1. Nature of the Incident

On August 9, 2023, CLMC detected unusual activity on our network. Upon discovery of this incident, CLMC immediately disconnected all access to the network and promptly engaged a specialized third-party cybersecurity firm to assist with securing the environment, as well as, to conduct a comprehensive forensic investigation to determine the nature and scope of the incident. The forensic investigation concluded on November 14, 2024 and found that certain files had been compromised. CLMC reviewed these files and determined that these files contained certain personal information.

The information potentially impacted varied by individual. Although CLMC is unaware of any fraudulent misuse of information, it is possible that individuals’ full name, social security number, and address may have been exposed as a result of this unauthorized activity.

As of this writing, CLMC has not received any reports of related identity theft since the date of the incident (August 9th, 2023 to present).

55 West Monroe Street, Suite 3800 • Chicago, IL 60603 • p 312.704.0550 • f 312.704.1522

Alabama • Albany • Atlanta • Austin • Baltimore • Beaumont • Boston • Chicago • Dallas • Denver • Edwardsville • Garden City • Hartford • Houston
Indiana • Kentucky • Las Vegas • London • Los Angeles • Miami • Michigan • Milwaukee • Mississippi • Missouri • Nashville • New Jersey • New Orleans
New York • Orlando • Philadelphia • Phoenix • San Diego • San Francisco • Sarasota • Stamford • Virginia • Washington, DC • Wellington • White Plains

wilsonelser.com

2. Number of Maryland residents affected.

CLMC identified and notified 171 individuals potentially affected by this Incident. Of those, 3 were residents of Maryland. Notification letters to these individuals were mailed January 9, 2024, by first class mail. A sample copy of the notification letter is included with this letter under **Exhibit A**.

3. Steps taken in response to the Incident.

CLMC is committed to ensuring the security and privacy of all personal information in its control, and is taking steps to prevent a similar incident from occurring in the future. Upon discovery of the Incident, CLMC moved quickly to investigate and respond to the Incident, assessed the security of its systems, and notified the potentially affected individuals. Specifically, CLMS engaged a specialized cybersecurity firm to conduct a forensic investigation to determine the nature and scope of the Incident. Additionally, CLMC disconnected all access to our network, changed administrative credentials, restored operations in a safe and secure mode, enhanced the security measures, and took steps and will continue to take steps to mitigate the risk of future harm. Lastly, CLMC informed our law firm and began identifying the potentially affected individuals in preparation for notice.

Although CLMC is not aware of any actual or attempted misuse of the affected personal information, CLMC offered 12 months of complimentary credit monitoring and identity theft restoration services through Kroll to all individuals to help protect their identity. Additionally, CLMC provided guidance on how to better protect against identity theft and fraud, including providing 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 the contact details for the Federal Trade Commission.

4. Contact information

CLMC remains dedicated to protecting the sensitive information in its control. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at Jennifer.Stegmaier@WilsonElser.com or 312-821-6167.

Very truly yours,

Wilson Elser Moskowitz Edelman & Dicker LLP



Jennifer S. Stegmaier

EXHIBIT A