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A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

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March 5, 2024

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 Security Incident

To Whom It May Concern:

We serve as counsel for Northeast Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, PLLC (“Northeast Orthopedics”), located at 507 Airport Executive Park, Nanuet, NY 10954, and provide this notification of a recent data security incident. By providing this notice, Northeast Orthopedics does not waive any rights or defenses under Maryland law, including the data breach notification statute.

On November 22, 2023, Northeast Orthopedics became aware of unauthorized activity on its computer network and immediately began an investigation with the assistance of third-party specialists. Northeast Orthopedics also notified law enforcement. On December 29, 2023, the investigation determined an unauthorized party may have accessed certain files on its network for a limited period of time. Therefore, Northeast Orthopedics began a thorough review of the potentially impacted portions of the network to determine the type of information contained therein and to whom the information related.

Northeast Orthopedics began sending individual notification letters on March 5, 2024 via First Class mail, including to the residents of Maryland believed to be impacted to date.

Northeast Orthopedics determined approximately 152 individuals who may live in Maryland were potentially impacted by this incident. The types of information may include names, in combination with Social Security number, driver’s license information, payment information, date of birth, medical record information, and health insurance information.

The written notice letters include instructions to access complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services for 12 months. A template copy of the individual notification letters sent to potentially impacted individuals in Maryland is attached hereto as *Exhibit A*.

In response to this incident, Northeast Orthopedics conducted a full forensic investigation, changed passwords, implemented new technical safeguards, and is continuing to review its policies and procedures related to data protection.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please contact me should you have any questions.

Very truly yours,

CIPRIANI & WERNER, P.C.

By:

Hilary Higgins, Esq.



ORTHOPEDICS AND SPORTS MEDICINE

Secure Processing Center
25 Route 111, P.O. Box 1048
Smithtown, NY 11787

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>

<<Address 1>>

<<Address 2>>

<<City>><<State>><<Zip>>

<<Date>>

Postal IMB Barcode

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name >>:

Northeast Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, PLLC (“Northeast Orthopedics”) writes to notify you of an incident that may affect the privacy of certain information related to you. This letter includes information about the incident, our response, and resources we are making available to you.

What Happened? On November 22, 2023, Northeast Orthopedics became aware of unauthorized activity on our computer network and immediately began an investigation with the assistance of third party specialists. On December 29, 2023 the investigation determined an unauthorized party may have accessed certain files on our network for a limited period of time. Therefore, we began a thorough review of the potentially impacted portions of our network to determine the type of information contained therein and to whom the information related. Northeast Orthopedics completed its review on February 8, 2024 and determined information related to you was potentially impacted.

What Information Was Involved? We have determined that the information potentially impacted may have included your name, <<Breached Elements>>.

What Are We Doing? In response to this incident, we conducted a full investigation into the nature and scope of the incident. Additionally, while we have no evidence that your information has or will be fraudulently misused as a result of this event, in an abundance of caution we are offering you access to <<CM Duration>> months of complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services.

What You Can Do. We encourage you to enroll in the complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services we are making available to you. Information about how to enroll in these services along with additional resources available to you are included in the attached *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information*.

For More Information. We understand you may have questions about this incident. You may call 888-324-1031 between 9 am to 9 pm ET, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays) or write to use at 507 Airport Executive Park, Nanuet, NY 10954.

We sincerely regret any concern this incident may cause you. The privacy and security of information is important to us, and we will continue to take steps to protect information in our care.

Sincerely,
Northeast Orthopedics and Sports Medicine, PLLC

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

Enroll in Credit Monitoring / Identity Protection

Key Features

- 1-Bureau Credit Monitoring
- Monthly Credit Score and Tracker (VantageScore 3.0)
- Real-Time Authentication Alerts
- High-Risk Transaction Monitoring
- Address Change Monitoring
- Dark Web Monitoring
- Wallet Protection
- Security Freeze Assist
- \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance**

Enrollment Instructions

To enroll in Identity Defense, visit [REDACTED]

1. Enter your unique Activation Code <<Activation Code>>

Enter your Activation Code and click 'Redeem Code'.

2. Create Your Account

Enter your email address, create your password, and click 'Create Account'.

3. Register

Enter your legal name, home address, phone number, date of birth, Social Security Number, and click 'Complete Account'.

4. Complete Activation

Click 'Continue to Dashboard' to finish enrolling.

The deadline to enroll is <<Enrollment Deadline>>. After <<Enrollment Deadline>>, the enrollment process will close, and your Identity Defense code will no longer be active. If you do not enroll by <<Enrollment Deadline>>, you will not be able to take advantage of Identity Defense, so please enroll before the deadline.

If you need assistance with the enrollment process or have questions regarding Identity Defense, please call Identity Defense directly at [REDACTED].

Monitor Your Accounts

We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your credit reports/account statements and explanation of benefits forms for suspicious activity and to detect errors. Under U.S. law, you are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, TransUnion, Experian, and Equifax. To order your free credit report, visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call 1-877-322-8228. Once you receive your credit report, review it for discrepancies and identify any accounts you did not open or inquiries from creditors that you did not authorize. If you have questions or notice incorrect information, contact the credit reporting bureau.

You have the right to place an initial or extended "fraud alert" on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a one-year alert that is placed on a consumer's credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer's identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any of the three credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, you 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 your express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on your credit report. To request a credit freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

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

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

TransUnion 1-800-680-7289 www.transunion.com TransUnion Fraud Alert P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016-2000 TransUnion Credit Freeze P.O. Box 160 Woodlyn, PA 19094	Experian 1-888-397-3742 www.experian.com Experian Fraud Alert P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 Experian Credit Freeze P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013	Equifax 1-888-298-0045 www.equifax.com Equifax Fraud Alert P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069 Equifax Credit Freeze P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788
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Additional Information

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps you can take to protect your personal information by contacting the credit reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), or your state Attorney General. The FTC also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. The FTC may be reached at 600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; www.identitytheft.gov; 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261.

You have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement, your state Attorney General, and the FTC. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

For Maryland residents, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-888-743-0023; and www.oag.state.md.us. Northeast Ortho is located at 327 NY-59, Airmont NY 10952.

For New Mexico residents, you have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in your credit file has been used against you, the right to know what is in your credit file, the right to ask for your credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act: (i) the consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; (ii) the consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; (iii) access to your file is limited; (iv) you must give consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; (v) you may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report; (vi) and you may seek damages from violators. You 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 you to review your rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504_cfpb_summary_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf, or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, FTC, 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.

For Rhode Island residents, the Rhode Island Attorney General may be contacted at 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903; 1-401-274-4400; and www.riag.ri.gov. Under Rhode Island law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. There are <<RI Count>> Rhode Island residents impacted by this incident.

For Washington, D.C. residents, the District of Columbia Attorney General may be contacted at 441 4th Street NW #1100, Washington, D.C. 20001; 202-727-3400, and <https://oag.dc.gov/consumer-protection>. Northeast Ortho is located at 327 NY-59, Airmont NY 10952.