



MULLEN
COUGHLIN^{LLC}
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Angelina W. Freind
Office: (267) 930-4782
Fax: (267) 930-4771
Email: afreind@mullen.law

426 W. Lancaster Avenue, Suite 200
Devon, PA 19333

April 4, 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

Re: Notice of Data Event

To Whom It May Concern:

We represent Cattaraugus-Allegany Board of Cooperative Education Services (“CABOCES”), a New York public organization, located at 1825 Windfall Road Olean, NY 14760, and write to notify your office of an incident that may affect the security of certain personal information relating to three (3) Maryland residents. 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, CABOCES 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 July 20, 2023, CABOCES experienced a network disruption that caused some of its internal tools, software, and servers to become temporarily unavailable. CABOCES took steps to immediately secure the network and began an investigation to confirm the nature and scope of the disruption. The investigation confirmed that CABOCES was the victim of a sophisticated cyber-attack and that certain information on its systems may have been viewed or taken without authorization between July 5, 2023 and July 20, 2023. Following this determination, CABOCES undertook a comprehensive review of the potentially impacted information. CABOCES recently completed this review and is notifying impacted individuals in accordance with applicable law and contract.

A portion of the personal information impacted by this event relates to Allegany-Cattaraugus Schools Medical Health Plan (the “Plan”), a health plan provided to CABOCES and member school

district employees and dependents. In addition to notifying individuals regarding the exposure of data it directly maintains as a data owner, CABOCES is also providing notification to impacted individuals on behalf of the Plan.

The personal information that could have been subject to unauthorized access includes name, and Social Security number, medical information, and health insurance information.

Notice to Maryland Residents

On or about April 4, 2024, CABOCES provided written notice of this incident to three (3) Maryland residents. Written notice is being provided in substantially the same form as the letter attached here as **Exhibit A**. Notice is also being provided to certain individuals on behalf of the Plan in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act ("HIPAA").

Other Steps Taken and To Be Taken

Upon discovering the event, CABOCES moved quickly to investigate and respond to the incident, assess the security of CABOCES systems, and identify potentially affected individuals. Further, CABOCES notified federal law enforcement regarding the event. CABOCES is also working to implement additional safeguards. CABOCES is providing access to credit monitoring services for twenty-four (24) months, through Experian, to individuals whose personal information was potentially affected by this incident, at no cost to these individuals.

Additionally, CABOCES is providing impacted individuals with guidance on how to better protect against identity theft and fraud. CABOCES is 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.

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

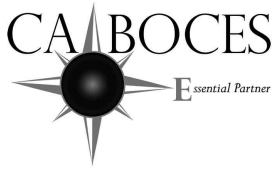
Contact Information

Should you have any questions regarding this notification or other aspects of the data security event, please contact us at (267) 930-4782.

Very truly yours,

Angelina W. Freind of
MULLEN COUGHLIN LLC

EXHIBIT A



Return Mail Processing
PO Box 589
Claysburg, PA 16625-0589

April 4, 2024

L1317-L03-0000001 T00001 P001 *****SCH 5-DIGIT 12345

SAMPLE A SAMPLE - L03 INDIVIDUAL

APT ABC

123 ANY STREET

ANYTOWN, FC 1A2 B3C

COUNTRY



NOTICE OF [Extra2]

Dear Sample A. Sample:

Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES (“CABOCES”) writes to notify you of an incident that may impact the privacy of information it maintains on behalf of Allegany-Cattaraugus Schools Medical Health Plan (the “Plan”). You are receiving this correspondence because you or one of your family members received health benefits from the Plan and is currently employed by a CABOCES member school district, or were previously employed by a CABOCES school district in the past. CABOCES maintains information for individuals in accordance with the services it provides to member districts. We are providing you with notice of the incident, steps we have taken in response, and resources available to help you better protect your information, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

What Happened? In July 2023, CABOCES experienced a network disruption that caused some of our internal tools, software, and servers to become temporarily unavailable. We took steps to immediately secure the network and began an investigation to confirm the nature and scope of the disruption. The investigation confirmed that CABOCES was the victim of a sophisticated cyber-attack and that certain information on our systems may have been viewed or taken without authorization between July 5, 2023 and July 20, 2023. Following this determination, we undertook a comprehensive review of the potentially impacted information. We recently completed our review and notified the Plan on or about March 8, 2024 about the impact to your information. CABOCES is providing this notice to you on behalf of the Plan.

What Information Was Involved? The information that may have been viewed or taken as a result of this event included your name and [Extra1].

What We Are Doing. We take this incident and the security of personal information in our care seriously. Upon discovering the network disruption, we took steps to secure the network, investigate the activity, and determine the scope of impacted information. Our immediate response to this event also included prompt and continued correspondence with federal law enforcement authorities.

As an added precaution, we are providing you with 24 months of complimentary access to credit monitoring and identity restoration services through Experian, as well as guidance on how to better protect your information. Although we are covering the cost of these services, due to privacy restrictions, you will need to complete the activation process yourself using the enrollment instructions included within the enclosure to this letter.

What You Can Do. You can find out more about how to safeguard your information in the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Protect Personal Information*. There, you will find additional information about the complimentary credit monitoring and identity restoration services we are offering and how to enroll.

0000001



What You Can Do. You can find out more about how to safeguard your information in the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Protect Personal Information*. There, you will find additional information about the complimentary credit monitoring and identity restoration services we are offering and how to enroll.

For More Information. We understand you may have questions about this incident that are not addressed in this letter. To ensure your questions are answered in a timely manner, please call our dedicated assistance line at 833-931-4400, Monday through Friday from 9 am – 9 pm EST, excluding U.S. holidays.

You may also write to CABOCES at 1825 Windfall Road, Olean, NY 14760.

Sincerely,

CABOCES

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION

Enroll in Monitoring Services

To help protect your identity, we are offering complimentary access to Experian IdentityWorksSM for 24 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 24 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 24-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 July 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 833-931-4400 by July 31, 2024. Be prepared to provide engagement number B119713 as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 24-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.

* 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 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:

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/	https://www.experian.com/help/	https://www.transunion.com/credit-help
1-888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	1-800-916-8800
Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069 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 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 your 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; 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) 442-9828; and 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, 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.

For Rhode Island residents, the Rhode Island Attorney General may be reached at: 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903; www.riag.ri.gov; and 1-401-274-4400. Under Rhode Island law, individuals have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this event. There are approximately 3 Rhode Island residents that may be impacted by this event.

