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July 8, 2024

VIA E-MAIL (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, General Fasteners Company (“GFC”), to notify your office concerning a data security incident.

On or about May 24, 2024, GFC identified unusual activity in its computer network. In response, GFC immediately secured the network and commenced an investigation. Through the investigation, it was determined that on May 24, 2024, an unauthorized actor acquired certain files stored on GFC’s servers. A review of the files was conducted, and on June 11, 2024, GFC identified files containing the name and one or more of the following data elements of five Maryland residents: Social Security number, financial account information, driver’s license number or state identification number, and/or passport number.

On July 8, 2024, GFC mailed notification letters to the involved individuals via United States Postal Service First-Class mail. A copy of the letter is attached. GFC is offering credit monitoring and identity theft protection services through NortonLifeLock Inc. to the notice recipients and is providing a telephone number for the individuals to call with questions.

To help prevent a similar incident from occurring in the future, GFC has implemented additional safeguards and technical security measures to enhance the security of its network.

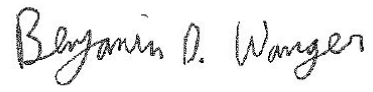
Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Atlanta Chicago Cincinnati Cleveland Columbus Costa Mesa Dallas Denver Houston
Los Angeles New York Orlando Philadelphia San Francisco Seattle Washington, DC Wilmington

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benjamin D. Wanger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Benjamin D. Wanger
Counsel



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

<<first_name>> <<middle_name>> <<last_name>> <<suffix>>
<<address_1>>
<<address_2>>
<<city>>, <<state_province>> <<postal_code>>
<<country>>

Dear <<first_name>> <<middle_name>> <<last_name>> <<suffix>>:

General Fasteners Company recognizes the importance of protecting the information we maintain. We are writing to let you know of a data security incident that may have involved some of your information. This notice explains the incident, measures we have taken, and some additional steps you may consider taking in response.

On May 24, 2024, we identified unusual activity in our network. Upon first identifying the incident, we immediately secured our network and commenced an investigation. Through the investigation, we determined that an unauthorized actor acquired certain files stored on our servers on May 24, 2024. We reviewed the files, and on June 11, 2024, we identified files containing your name and one or more of the following: Social Security number, financial account information, driver's license number or state identification number, and/or passport number.

We encourage you to remain vigilant by regularly reviewing your credit report and financial account statements for unauthorized activity. If you see charges or activity you did not authorize, please contact your financial institution immediately. As a precaution, we have also secured the services of NortonLifeLock Inc. to provide identity and credit monitoring services, at no cost to you, for one year. For more information on NortonLifeLock including instructions on how to activate your complimentary one-year membership, as well as some additional steps you can take to protect your information, please see the pages that follow this letter.

We regret any inconvenience this incident may cause you. We are implementing additional safeguards and technical security measures to enhance the security of our systems. If you have any questions about the incident, please call (866) 810-4544, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, excluding major U.S. holidays.

Sincerely,

General Fasteners Company

Dear <<FIRST_NAME>> <<LAST_NAME>>:

General Fasteners Company has retained **NortonLifeLock** to provide one (1) year of complimentary **LifeLock Standard™** identity theft protection.

To activate your membership online and get protection at no cost to you:

1. You will need the following **Promo Code:** <<b2b_text_1 (PROMO CODE)>> and **Member ID:** <<b2b_text_2 (MEMBER ID)>>, which have been assigned specifically to you, for one-time use.
2. To begin, please navigate to the following **URL:** <<b2b_text_3 (URL)>>
3. Enter The enrollment ID from Above and click Apply.
4. Once enrollment is completed, you will receive a confirmation email (*be sure to follow ALL directions in this email*).

Alternatively, to activate your membership over the phone, please call: <<b2b_text_4 (enrollment TFN)>>

You will have until <<b2b_text_6 (ENROLLMENT DEADLINE)>> to enroll in this service.

Once you have completed the LifeLock enrollment process, the service will be in effect. Your **LifeLock Standard™** membership includes:

- ✓ LifeLock Identity Alert™ System†
- ✓ 24/7 Live Member Support
- ✓ Dark Web Monitoring**
- ✓ LifeLock Privacy Monitor™
- ✓ Lost Wallet Protection
- ✓ Stolen Funds Reimbursement up to \$25,000 ††
- ✓ Personal Expense Compensation up to \$25,000 ††
- ✓ Coverage for Lawyers and Experts up to \$1 million †††
- ✓ U.S.-Based Identity Restoration Team
- ✓ One-Bureau Credit Monitoring¹**
- ✓ Reduced Pre-Approved Credit Card Offers
- ✓ USPS Address Change Verification

¹ If your plan includes credit reports, scores, and/or credit monitoring features ("Credit Features"), two requirements must be met to receive said features: (i) your identity must be successfully verified with Equifax; and (ii) Equifax must be able to locate your credit file and it must contain sufficient credit history information. IF EITHER OF THE FOREGOING REQUIREMENTS ARE NOT MET YOU WILL NOT RECEIVE CREDIT FEATURES FROM ANY BUREAU. If your plan also includes Credit Features from Experian and/or TransUnion, the above verification process must also be successfully completed with Experian and/or TransUnion, as applicable. If verification is successfully completed with Equifax, but not with Experian and/or TransUnion, as applicable, you will not receive Credit Features from such bureau(s) until the verification process is successfully completed and until then you will only receive Credit Features from Equifax. Any credit monitoring from Experian and TransUnion will take several days to begin after your successful plan enrollment.

No one can prevent all identity theft or cybercrime. † LifeLock does not monitor all transactions at all businesses.

** These features are not enabled upon enrollment. Member must take action to get their protection.

††† Reimbursement and Expense Compensation, each with limits of up to \$25,000 for Standard. And up to \$1 million for coverage for lawyers and experts if needed. Benefits under the Master Policy are issued and covered by United Specialty Insurance Company (State National Insurance Company, Inc. for NY State members). Policy terms, conditions and exclusions at: LifeLock.com/legal.

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. 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 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, 1-888-378-4329
- **Experian**, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742
- **TransUnion**, PO Box 1000, Chester, PA 19016, 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

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
- **Equifax Security Freeze**, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.com
- **TransUnion Security Freeze**, PO Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094, www.transunion.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.

General Fasteners Company is located at 19500 Victor Parkway, Suite 525. Livonia, MI 48152 and can be reached at (734) 452-2400

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, 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

West Virginia: You have the right to ask that nationwide consumer reporting agencies place "fraud alerts" in your file to let potential creditors and others know that you may be a victim of identity theft, as described above. You also have a right to place a security freeze on your credit report, as described above.