

To Whom It May Concern:

Preservation Austin's office, now under construction, was burglarized on June 27, 2024. We discovered this burglary on June 28, 2024 and among the stolen items were three outdated computers. On July 5, 2024 we determined that one of those computers included social security numbers of about 30 past employees and contractors prior to December 31, 2022.

One of these individuals is a Maryland resident, to the best of our knowledge.

We have notified all residents by mail, postmarked July 13, 2024. The letter to the Maryland resident is attached.

Preservation Austin believes this was a crime of opportunity and not a data breach. We have no evidence that personal identifying information has been extracted from the stolen computer. We are sending all notifications out of an abundance of caution.

Thank you,

Lindsey Derrington

Executive Director - Preservation Austin

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July 11, 2024



Dear [REDACTED],

On June 28 a burglary occurred at Preservation Austin's office that resulted in the theft of outdated computer equipment. The data on the computers included past personnel information from 2022 or earlier, including Social Security Numbers. We believe this was a crime of opportunity and not a data breach. The Austin Police Department has been notified.

While we have no evidence that a third party has accessed your personal identity information, we want to make sure that you can take steps to protect yourself. Please review the following actions below:

Fraud Alert – 5 minutes

Contact the three major credit reporting agencies to place a fraud alert on your accounts. This prevents criminals from opening accounts in your name and can help limit damage to your credit score. Also ask for a free credit report. You only need to contact one of the three agencies because the law requires the agency you call to contact the other two.

Equifax — 1-800-349-9960

Experian — 1-888-397-3742

TransUnion — 1-888-909-8872

Once you have a fraud alert on your credit report in place, a business must verify your identity before it issues new credit in your name. The alert remains active for a year and can be renewed by you for up to seven years.

Freeze your credit – 20 minutes

Contact the three major credit reporting agencies to place a fraud alert and freeze on your accounts. This prevents criminals from opening accounts in your name and can help limit damage to your credit score. There is no cost to place or lift a security freeze. Sign up for free accounts here:

<https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/>

<https://usa.experian.com/login/index?refUrl=%2Fmfe%2Fregulatory%2Fsecurity-freeze>

<https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze>

Contact the Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

Call (800) 908-4490 to report identity theft and help prevent someone from filing a tax return in your name.

You can find additional resources from the Texas Attorney General here:

www.texasattorneygeneral.gov/consumer-protection/identity-theft/what-do-if-your-identity-stolen

We truly regret this inconvenience and will stand by to answer any questions that you may have. Thank you for your continued support of Preservation Austin.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Derrington
Executive Director