



MULLEN  
COUGHLIN<sup>LLC</sup>  
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August 13, 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 Copiah-Lincoln Community College (“Copiah-Lincoln”) located at P.O. Box 649, Wesson, Mississippi 39191, and are writing to notify your office of an incident that may affect the security of certain personal information relating to thirty (30) Maryland residents. By providing this notice, Copiah-Lincoln 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 March 11, 2024, Copiah-Lincoln learned of suspicious activity in its environment. Upon learning this, Copiah-Lincoln immediately launched an investigation to determine the nature and scope of the activity. The investigation determined that there was unauthorized access to Copiah-Lincoln’s environment between March 8, 2024 and March 11, 2024. The investigation also determined that an unauthorized actor had the ability to access or take certain information stored on the network during this period of time. Therefore, Copiah-Lincoln undertook a comprehensive review of the data at risk to assess if any sensitive information could be affected and to whom it related. On June 25, 2024, Copiah-Lincoln determined the potentially impacted data contained certain information related to Maryland residents.

The information that could have been subject to unauthorized access for Maryland residents includes name and Social Security number.

### **Notice to Maryland Residents**

On August 13, 2024, Copiah-Lincoln provided written notice of this incident to thirty (30) Maryland residents. Written notice is being provided in substantially the same form as the letter attached here as ***Exhibit A***.

### **Other Steps Taken and To Be Taken**

Upon learning of the event, Copiah-Lincoln moved quickly to investigate and respond to the incident, assess the security of Copiah-Lincoln systems, and identify potentially affected individuals. Copiah-Lincoln also notified federal law enforcement regarding the event. Copiah-Lincoln is providing access to credit monitoring services for twelve (12) months, through CyEx, to individuals whose personal information was potentially affected by this incident, at no cost to these individuals.

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

Copiah-Lincoln 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) 930-4689.

Very truly yours,

Furrah Qureshi of  
MULLEN COUGHLIN LLC

FQ/ahf  
Enclosure

# **EXHIBIT A**



Postal Endorsement Line

<<Full Name>>

<<Address 1>>

<<Address 2>>

<<Address 3>>

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

<<Country>>

\*\*\*Postal IMB Barcode

<<Date>>

**NOTICE OF <<VARIABLE DATA 1 – HEADER>>**

Dear <<Full Name>>,

Copiah-Lincoln Community College (“Copiah-Lincoln”) writes to notify you of an incident that may affect the privacy of some of your information. This letter provides details of the incident, our response, and steps you may take to better protect against the possible misuse of your information should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

**What Happened?** On March 11, 2024, Copiah-Lincoln discovered suspicious activity in its environment. Upon learning this, Copiah-Lincoln immediately launched an investigation to determine the nature and scope of the activity. The investigation determined that there was unauthorized access to our environment between March 8, 2024 and March 11, 2024. The investigation also determined that an unauthorized actor had the ability to access or take certain information stored on the network during this period of time. Therefore, Copiah-Lincoln undertook a comprehensive review of the data at risk to assess if any sensitive information could be affected and to whom it related. On June 25, 2024, Copiah-Lincoln determined the potentially impacted data contained certain information related to you.

**What Information Was Involved?** Copiah-Lincoln determined the type of information potentially impacted by this incident includes your name and Social Security number.

**What We Are Doing.** Copiah-Lincoln takes the confidentiality, privacy, and security of information in its care seriously. Upon discovery of the incident, we immediately commenced an investigation and took steps to implement additional safeguards and review our policies and procedures relating to data privacy and security.

In an abundance of caution, Copiah-Lincoln is providing you with access to <<twelve (12)/twenty-four (24)>> months of credit monitoring and identity protection services through CyEx at no cost to you. A description of the services and instructions on how to enroll can be found within the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Protect Personal Information*. Please note that you must complete the enrollment process yourself as we are not permitted to enroll you in these services.

**What You Can Do.** You can review the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Protect Personal Information* for general guidance. In addition, you can enroll in the complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services being offered through CyEx. We also encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity.

**For More Information.** We understand you may have questions about the incident that are not addressed in this letter. If you have questions, or need assistance, please call 833-251-9590, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Central Time. You may also write to Copiah-Lincoln at P.O. Box 649, Wesson, Mississippi 39191.

Sincerely,

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

## STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION

### Enroll in Credit Monitoring

Enter your Activation Code: <<Activation Code>>

Enrollment Deadline: <<Enroll Deadline>>

Service Term: <<twelve (12)/twenty-four (24)>> months\*

### Identity Defense Complete

#### 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 [URL](#)

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 <<Enroll Deadline>>. After <<Enroll Deadline>>, the enrollment process will close, and your Identity Defense code will no longer be active. If you do not enroll by <<Enroll 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 1.866.622.9303.

### 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 your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of your 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 you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one 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 your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report 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 security freeze, you will need to provide 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 you are a victim of identity theft.

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

| <b>Equifax</b>                                                                                                                  | <b>Experian</b>                                                             | <b>TransUnion</b>                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/">https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/</a> | <a href="https://www.experian.com/help/">https://www.experian.com/help/</a> | <a href="https://www.transunion.com/credit-help">https://www.transunion.com/credit-help</a> |
| 1-888-298-0045                                                                                                                  | 1-888-397-3742                                                              | 1-800-916-8800                                                                              |
| Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069<br>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<br>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**

You may further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps you can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580; [www.identitytheft.gov](http://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. You can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. 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 and your 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, DC 20001; 202-727-3400; and [oag.dc.gov](http://oag.dc.gov).

*For Maryland residents*, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at: 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-528-8662 or 1-888-743-0023; and <https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>.

*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, the consumer reporting bureaus must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to your file is limited; you must give your consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; you may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report; and you may seek damages from violator. 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 [www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\\_cfpb\\_summary\\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf](http://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](http://www.ncdoj.gov).