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Hotline: 877-382-2724 (877-DTA-BRCH)

August 29, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Attorney General Anthony G. Brown
Office of the Attorney General
St. Paul Plaza
Attn: Security Breach Notification
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
Tel: 410-576-6491
Email: Idtheft@oag.state.md.us

Re: Benedictine Schools of Richmond - Notice of Data Event

Attorney General Anthony G. Brown:

We represent Benedictine Schools of Richmond (“Benedictine”), located at 12829 River Rd. Richmond, Virginia 23238, and are writing to notify your office of an incident that may affect the security of certain personal information relating to approximately thirty-five (35) Maryland residents. This notice may be supplemented with any new significant facts learned subsequent to its submission. By providing this notice, Benedictine 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.

1. Nature of the Data Event

On July 18, 2024, Benedictine discovered it had experienced an incident that limited the operability of its network environment for a short period. In response, Benedictine immediately took steps to secure its systems and promptly launched an investigation. Benedictine engaged digital forensics and incident response specialists to determine what happened and to identify any information that may have been accessed or acquired without authorization as a result. On August 16, 2024, Benedictine learned that personal information may have been accessed in connection with the incident.

The information that could have been subject to unauthorized access includes first and last name, as well as Social Security number.

2. Notice to Maryland Residents

On or about August 29, 2024, Benedictine provided written notice of this incident to approximately thirty-five (35) Maryland residents. Written notice is being provided in substantially the same form as the letter attached here as *Exhibit A*.

3. Other Steps Taken and To Be Taken

Upon discovering the event, Benedictine moved quickly to investigate and respond to the incident, assess the security of Benedictine systems, and identify potentially affected individuals. Benedictine is also working to implement additional safeguards and training to its employees. Benedictine is providing access to credit monitoring services for twelve (12) months, through IDX, to individuals whose personal information was potentially affected by this incident, at no cost to these individuals.

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

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

4. Contact Information

Should you have any questions regarding this notification or other aspects of the data security event, please contact us at 336.448.8552.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Toldero". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Matthew Toldero of
Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete LLP

Exhibit A

BENEDICTINE SCHOOLS

OF RICHMOND

12829 River Rd
Richmond, VA 23238

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>
<<Address1>> <<Address2>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

Enrollment Code: <<XXXXXXXXXX>>
To Enroll, Scan the QR Code Below:



Or Visit:

<https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect>

August 29, 2024

Subject: Notice of Data <<Variable Text 1: Breach or Security Incident>>

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>,

I am writing to inform you of a recent data security incident that may have affected your personal information. Benedictine takes the privacy and security of all personal information within its possession very seriously. Please read this letter carefully as it contains information regarding the incident and steps that you can take to help protect your personal information.

What Happened?

On July 18, 2024, we discovered we had experienced an incident that limited the operability of our network environment for a short period. In response, we immediately took steps to secure our systems and promptly launched an investigation. We engaged digital forensics and incident response specialists to determine what happened and to identify any information that may have been accessed or acquired without authorization as a result.

On August 16, 2024, we learned that personal information may have been accessed in connection with the incident. Please note that Benedictine has no evidence of the misuse or attempted misuse of any potentially impacted information.

What Information Was Involved?

The information potentially impacted in connection with this incident included your name as well as your <<Variable Text 2: Potentially Impacted Data Sets>>.

What We Are Doing.

As soon as our team discovered this incident, we took the steps described above. In addition, we are implementing measures to enhance the security of our digital environment to minimize the risk of a similar incident occurring in the future.

Although Benedictine has no evidence of the misuse of any potentially impacted information, we are providing you with information about steps that you can take to help protect your personal information. We are offering you complimentary identity protection services through IDX, A ZeroFox Company, the data breach and recovery services expert. IDX identity protection services include: [12 months/24 months] of credit and CyberScan monitoring, a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed id theft recovery services. With this protection, IDX will help you resolve issues if your identity is compromised.

What You Can Do.

Please follow the recommendations on the following page to help protect your personal information. We also encourage you to enroll in the complimentary services being offered to you through IDX.

For More Information.

Further information about how to protect your personal information appears on the following page. If you have questions or need assistance, please call IDX at 800-939-4170 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays). IDX call center representatives are fully versed on this incident and can answer any questions that you may have.

Please accept my sincere apologies and know that Benedictine takes this matter very seriously and deeply regrets any worry or inconvenience that this may cause you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jesse Grapes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jesse" being more prominent than the last name "Grapes".

Jesse Grapes
President
Benedictine Schools of Richmond

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

Review Your Account Statements and Notify Law Enforcement of Suspicious Activity: As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements and credit reports closely. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained. You also should promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidence of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, your state attorney general, and/or the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

Copy of Credit Report: You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies once every 12 months by visiting <http://www.annualcreditreport.com/>, calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or by completing an Annual Credit Report Request Form and mailing it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348. You also can contact one of the following three national credit reporting agencies:

Equifax

P.O. Box 105851
Atlanta, GA 30348
1-800-525-6285
www.equifax.com

Experian

P.O. Box 9532
Allen, TX 75013
1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com

TransUnion

P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016
1-800-916-8800
www.transunion.com

Fraud Alert: You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. An initial fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit file for at least one year. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three credit reporting agencies identified above. Additional information is available at <http://www.annualcreditreport.com>.

Security Freeze: You have the right to put a security freeze on your credit file for up to one year at no cost. This will prevent new credit from being opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate the freeze. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential creditors from accessing your credit report without your consent. As a result, using a security freeze may interfere with or delay your ability to obtain credit. You must separately place a security freeze on your credit file with each credit reporting agency. In order to place a security freeze, you may be required to provide the consumer reporting agency with information that identifies you including your full name, Social Security number, date of birth, current and previous addresses, a copy of your state-issued identification card, and a recent utility bill, bank statement or insurance statement.

Additional Free Resources: You can obtain information from the consumer reporting agencies, the FTC, or from your respective state Attorney General about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft. You may report suspected identity theft to local law enforcement, including to the FTC or to the Attorney General in your state.

Federal Trade Commission

600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20580
consumer.ftc.gov
877-438-4338

Maryland Attorney General

200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/CPD
888-743-0023

Oregon Attorney General

1162 Court St., NE
Salem, OR 97301
www.doj.state.or.us/consumer-protection
877-877-9392

California Attorney General

1300 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.oag.ca.gov/privacy
800-952-5225

New York Attorney General

The Capitol
Albany, NY 12224
800-771-7755
ag.ny.gov

Rhode Island Attorney General

150 South Main Street
Providence, RI 02903
www.riag.ri.gov
401-274-4400
There were [0] RI residents affected.

Iowa Attorney General
1305 E. Walnut Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov
888-777-4590

NY Bureau of Internet and Technology
28 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10005
www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection/
212.416.8433

Washington D.C. Attorney General
400 S 6th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001
oag.dc.gov/consumer-protection
202-442-9828

Kentucky Attorney General
700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 118
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
www.ag.ky.gov
502-696-5300

NC Attorney General
9001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699
ncdoj.gov/protectingconsumers/
877-566-7226

Texas Residents: Please note that there were [29] affected individuals residing in Texas.

Utah: Please note that there were [4] Utah residents affected.

You also have certain rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA): These rights include to know what is in your file; to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information; to have consumer reporting agencies correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; as well as other rights. For more information about the FCRA, and your rights pursuant to the FCRA, please visit <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf-0096-fair-credit-reporting-act.pdf>.