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August 30, 2024

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VIA E-MAIL (IDTHEFT@OAG.STATE.MD.US)

Office of the Attorney General
Attn: Jeff Karberg, Administrator of the Identity Theft Program
Attn: Security Breach Notification
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Notification of a Data Security Incident

Dear Mr. Karberg:

We represent the City of Miami Gardens (“Miami Gardens”) in connection with an incident that involved the personal information of a Maryland resident. Miami Gardens is reporting the incident pursuant to MD. CODE ANN., COM. LAW § 14-3504(h). This notice will be supplemented, if necessary, with any new significant facts discovered subsequent to this submission. While Miami Gardens is notifying you of this incident, Miami Gardens does not waive any rights or defenses relating to the incident or this notice.

NATURE OF THE SECURITY INCIDENT

On June 7, 2024, Miami Gardens identified suspicious activity within its network. Upon discovering the incident, Miami Gardens took prompt steps to contain the incident and secure its environment. In addition, Miami Gardens, through its legal counsel, engaged a leading forensic security firm to further investigation and confirm the security of Miami Gardens’ network. The forensic investigation determined that an unknown, unauthorized third party accessed Miami Garden’s network on June 7, 2024 and may have acquired copies of certain Miami Gardens documents during that time.

Based upon the findings of the investigation, Miami Gardens reviewed the contents of the files that may have been acquired by the unauthorized party. On August 1, 2024, Miami Gardens determined that these files contained the name, Social Security number, date of birth, financial account number, and health insurance information of one (1) Maryland resident. To date, Miami Gardens is not aware of any fraud or identity theft to individual as a result of this incident.

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NOTICE TO MARYLAND RESIDENTS

Miami Gardens is notifying the one (1) Maryland resident whose personal information may have been involved in the incident. This notification is being made via letters mailed first-class United States mail today, August 30, 2024. The notification letter includes an offer of complimentary credit monitoring and identity theft protection services for all individuals whose Social Security numbers were potentially involved. Miami Gardens has also arranged for a toll-free, dedicated call line to assist notified individuals with questions regarding the incident. Attached is a sample of the notice letter.

STEPS TAKEN RELATING TO THE INCIDENT

As discussed above, upon learning of the incident, Miami Gardens promptly began an internal investigation and engaged a forensic security firm to assist with the investigation and confirm the security of Miami Gardens' network. Additionally, Miami Gardens has taken steps to reduce the risk of this type of incident occurring in the future, including enhancing its technical security measures. Finally, as discussed above, Miami Gardens is notifying involved individuals, providing free credit monitoring services, and providing individuals with information on how they can protect themselves against fraudulent activity and identity theft.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact me if you have any questions or if I can provide you with any further information concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Bruce A. Radke', enclosed in a light gray rectangular box.

Bruce A. Radke

Enclosure



<<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>>:

The City of Miami Gardens values and respects the privacy of your information, which is why we are writing to advise you of a recent incident that may have involved some of your personal information. **While we are not aware of any instances of fraud or identity theft involving your information**, we are providing this letter to explain the incident, the steps we have taken in response, and steps you may take should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

What Happened? We recently learned that an unauthorized party temporarily gained access to certain Miami Gardens' computer systems. Upon discovering the incident, we promptly initiated an internal investigation. We also engaged a leading forensic security firm to assist with our investigation and confirm the security of our computer systems. Through the investigation, we determined that the unauthorized party had access to our computer systems on June 7, 2024, and may have acquired copies of some of our computer files during this period.

What Information Was Involved? Based upon the findings of the investigation, we reviewed the contents of the potentially acquired files to determine if they contained any personal information. On August 1, 2024, we determined that the files contained your name, Social Security number, date of birth, financial account number, and health insurance information.

What We Are Doing. In addition to the actions described above, we have also taken steps to reduce the risk of this type of incident occurring in the future, including enhancing our technical security measures. We are also notifying you of the incident so that you can be aware and take steps to protect your information, if you feel it is appropriate to do so. Finally, although we are not aware of any instances of fraud or identity theft resulting from this incident, out of an abundance of caution, we are offering a complimentary one-year membership of Experian IdentityWorksSM Credit 3B. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with identity protection services focused on prompt identification and resolution of identity theft. IdentityWorks Credit 3B is completely free to you and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score. **For more information on identity theft prevention and IdentityWorks Credit 3B, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary, one-year membership, please see the additional information attached to this letter.**

What You Can Do. While we have no evidence that your personal information has been misused, we encourage you to take advantage of the complimentary credit monitoring included in this letter. You can also find more information on steps to protect yourself against possible identity theft or fraud in the enclosed *Additional Important Information* page.

For More Information. We value the trust you place in us to protect your privacy, take our responsibility to safeguard personal information seriously, and apologize for any inconvenience this incident might cause. For further assistance, please call toll free at <<<TFN>> between 9:00 am and 6:30 pm, EST, Monday through Friday excluding major holidays.

Sincerely,

City of Miami Gardens

ACTIVATING YOUR COMPLIMENTARY CREDIT MONITORING

To help protect your identity, we are offering a **complimentary** one-year membership of Experian IdentityWorksSM Credit 3B. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with superior identity protection support focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft.

Activate IdentityWorks Credit 3B Now in Three Easy Steps

1. ENROLL by: <<b2b_text_6 (activation deadline)>> (Your code will not work after this date.)
2. VISIT the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: <https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit>
3. PROVIDE the Activation Code: <<activation code s_n>>

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with identity restoration or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at 877-288-8057. Be prepared to provide engagement number <<b2b_text_2 (Engagement Number)>> as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services by Experian.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 12-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS CREDIT 3B MEMBERSHIP:

A credit card is **not** required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks Credit 3B.

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, Equifax and Transunion files for indicators of fraud.
- **Identity Restoration:** Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARETM:** You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **Up to \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance^{**}:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

Activate your membership today at <https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit>
or call 877-288-8057 to register with the activation code above.

What you can do to protect your information: There are additional actions you can consider taking to reduce the chances of identity theft or fraud on your account(s). Please refer to www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration for this information. If you have any questions about IdentityWorks, need help understanding something on your credit report or suspect that an item on your credit report may be fraudulent, please contact Experian's customer care team at 877-288-8057.

* 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.

Additional Important Information

As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant to protect against potential fraud and/or identity theft by, among other things, reviewing your account statements and monitoring 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 should also promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidents of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, including the police and your state's attorney general, as well as the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC").

You may wish to review the tips provided by the FTC on fraud alerts, security/credit freezes and steps you can take to avoid identity theft. For more information and to contact the FTC, please visit www.ftc.gov/idtheft or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338). You may also contact the FTC at Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580.

Credit Reports: By law, you may obtain a free copy of your credit report once every 12 months from each of the three national credit reporting agencies. The three national credit reporting agencies have also agreed to provide free weekly online credit reports. You can obtain your free credit report by visiting www.annualcreditreport.com, by 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 can print a copy of the request form at <https://www.annualcreditreport.com/manualRequestForm.action>. Alternatively, you may elect to purchase a copy of your credit report by contacting one of the three national credit reporting agencies. Contact information for the three national credit reporting agencies for the purpose of requesting a copy of your credit report or for general inquiries is as follows:

Equifax
1-866-349-5191
www.equifax.com
P.O. Box 740241
Atlanta, GA 30374

Experian
1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com
P.O. Box 2002
Allen, TX 75013

TransUnion
1-800-888-4213
www.transunion.com
P.O. Box 1000
Chester, PA 19016

Fraud Alerts: By law, you have the right to place a fraud alert on your credit report if you believe you have been, or are about to become, a victim of fraud or related crime. A fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit report for one (1) year. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any new accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three national credit reporting agencies using the contact information listed above. Additional information is available at www.annualcreditreport.com/protectYourIdentity.action.

Credit and Security Freezes: By law, you have the right to place a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate the freeze. A credit freeze is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a credit freeze, potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a credit freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a credit freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. Since the instructions for how to establish a credit freeze differ from state to state, please contact the three major credit reporting companies as specified below to find out more information:

Equifax Security Freeze
1-888-298-0045
<https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/>
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348

Experian Security Freeze
1-888-397-3742
<https://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html>
P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013

TransUnion Security Freeze
1-800-916-8800
<https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze>
P.O. Box 160
Woodlyn, PA 19094

This notification was not delayed by law enforcement.

Maryland Residents: Maryland residents can contact the Office of the Attorney General to obtain information about steps you can take to avoid identity theft from the Maryland Attorney General's office at: Office of the Attorney General, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, (888) 743-0023, <http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>.

New York State Residents: New York residents can obtain information about preventing identity theft from the New York Attorney General's Office at: Office of the Attorney General for the State of New York, Bureau of Consumer Frauds & Protection, The Capitol, Albany, New York 12224-0341; <https://ag.ny.gov/consumer-frauds/identity-theft>; (800) 771-7755.

North Carolina Residents: North Carolina residents can obtain information about preventing identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office at: North Carolina Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 877-5-NO-SCAM (Toll-free within North Carolina); 919-716-6000; www.ncdoj.gov.

Oregon Residents: Oregon residents are advised to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, including the Federal Trade Commission and the Oregon Attorney General. Oregon residents can contact the Oregon Attorney General at 1162 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301-4096; 503-378-4400; <https://www.doj.state.or.us/>.