



MULLEN
COUGHLIN^{LLC}
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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October 31, 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 Elastec, Inc. ("Elastec"), located at 1309 West Main, Carmi, IL 62821, and write to notify your office of an incident that may affect the security of certain personal information relating to certain Maryland residents. The investigation into this matter is ongoing, and this notice will be supplemented with any new significant facts learned subsequent to its submission. By providing this notice, Elastec 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

Elastec learned of suspicious activity related to an employee's email account. In response, Elastec took steps to secure its email environment and conduct a comprehensive investigation. The investigation determined that the Elastec employee email account was accessed without authorization between June 4, 2024, and June 18, 2024 by an unknown party. Elastec worked with third-party data review specialists to review the relevant emails to determine what information was present, and to whom the information related. This process was completed on or around September 30, 2024. Elastec then worked diligently to reconcile the information with its internal records for purposes of providing relevant individuals with notice. The information related to the Maryland resident that could have been subject to unauthorized access includes name and Social Security number.

Notice to Maryland Resident

On or about October 31, 2024, Elastec began providing written notice of this incident to relevant individuals, including one (1) Maryland resident. 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

In response to this incident, Elastec promptly took steps to secure its email system and conducted a diligent investigation to confirm the full nature and scope of this event. Elastec also recognizes the evolving nature of cyber security and will continue to evaluate and enhance its safeguards as appropriate. Additionally, Elastec is notifying potentially affected individuals and providing them with guidance on how to better protect against identity theft and fraud, including 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. Elastec is also providing access to credit monitoring services for twelve (12) months, through Experian, to individuals whose personal information was potentially affected by this incident, at no cost to these individuals. Elastec 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.

Contact Information

Should you have any questions regarding this notification or other aspects of the data security event, please contact us at (267) 930-4773.

Very truly yours,

M. Alexandra Belton of
MULLEN COUGHLIN LLC

MABB/jlm
Enclosure

EXHIBIT A



Return Mail Processing
PO Box 999
Suwanee, GA 30024

1 1 36 *****AUTO**MIXED AADC 302

SAMPLE A. SAMPLE - L01



APT ABC

123 ANY ST

ANYTOWN, US 12345-6789



October 31, 2024

[Extra1]

Dear Sample A. Sample:

Elastec, Inc. ("Elastec") is writing to make you aware of an incident that may affect your personal information. This letter provides you with information about the event, our response, and steps you may take to help protect your information, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

What Happened? Elastec learned of suspicious activity related to an employee's email account. In response, Elastec took steps to secure its email environment and conduct a comprehensive investigation. The investigation determined that the Elastec employee email account was accessed without authorization between June 4, 2024, and June 18, 2024 by an unknown party. We reviewed the relevant emails to determine what information was present, and to whom the information related. [Extra2]. We then worked diligently to reconcile the information with our internal records for purposes of providing this notice. You are receiving this letter because your information was found in the relevant emails.

What Information Was Involved? Our investigation identified the following information related to you in the relevant emails: name and [Extra3].

What We Are Doing. We take this matter and the security of information in our care seriously. In response, we promptly took steps to secure the email and conducted a diligent investigation to confirm the full nature and scope of this event. We also recognize the evolving nature of cyber security and will continue to evaluate and enhance our safeguards as appropriate.

As an added precaution, we are offering you access to twelve months of complimentary credit monitoring and identity theft protection services through Experian. If you wish to activate these services, you may follow the instructions included in the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Personal Information*.

What You Can Do. We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your account statements and monitoring your free credit reports for suspicious activity and to detect errors. You can also enroll in the complimentary monitoring services that we are offering to you. Please also review the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Personal Information* for additional information and resources.

For More Information. We understand that you may have questions that are not addressed in this letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact our dedicated assistance line at 833-918-6043, Monday through Friday 9:00am - 9:00pm ET (excluding major U.S. holidays). We take this matter seriously and sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern it may cause you.

Sincerely,

Elastec, Inc.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION

Enroll in Monitoring Services

To help protect your identity, we are offering complimentary access to Experian IdentityWorksSM for 12 months.

If you believe there was fraudulent use of your information and would like to discuss how you may be able to resolve those issues, please reach out to an Experian agent. If, after discussing your situation with an agent, it is determined that identity restoration support is needed then an Experian Identity Restoration agent is available to work with you to investigate and resolve each incident of fraud that occurred from the date of the incident (including, as appropriate, helping you with contacting credit grantors to dispute charges and close accounts; assisting you in placing a freeze on your credit file with the three major credit bureaus; and assisting you with contacting government agencies to help restore your identity to its proper condition).

Please note that Identity Restoration is available to you for 12 months from the date of this letter and does not require any action on your part at this time. The Terms and Conditions for this offer are located at www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration.

While identity restoration assistance is immediately available to you, we also encourage you to activate the fraud detection tools available through Experian IdentityWorks as a complimentary 12-month membership. This product provides you with superior identity detection and resolution of identity theft. To start monitoring your personal information, please follow the steps below:

- Ensure that you **enroll by** January 31, 2025 (Your code will not work after this date.)
- **Visit** the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: <https://www.experianidworks.com/credit>
- Provide your **activation code**: ABCDEFGHI

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with Identity Restoration that arose as a result of this incident, or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at 833-918-6043 by January 31, 2025. Be prepared to provide engagement number B134087 as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 12-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS MEMBERSHIP

A credit card is not required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks. 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 file for indicators of fraud.
- **Identity Restoration:** Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARE™:** You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **\$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance**:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

* 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.

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 a free credit report, visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. Consumers may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of their 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 consumers are the victim of identity theft, they are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should consumers wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any 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 a consumer’s name without consent. However, consumers should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in their credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application they make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, consumers cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on their credit report. To request a credit freeze, individuals may need to provide some or all of 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 they are a victim of identity theft.

Should consumers wish to place a credit freeze or fraud alert, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/	https://www.experian.com/help/	https://www.transunion.com/credit-help
1-888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	1-800-916-8800
Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069 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 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

Consumers may further educate themselves regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps they can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or their state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; 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. Consumers can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Consumers have the right to file a police report if they ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, consumers will likely need to provide some proof that they have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and the relevant state Attorney General. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

For Maryland residents, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at: 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-576-6300 or 1-888-743-0023; and <https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>. Elastec can be reached at 1309 West Main, Carmi, IL 62821 or 1-618-382-2525.