



MULLEN
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November 27, 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 Mason & Carter, Inc. ("Mason & Carter") located at 23 South Street, Baltimore, MD 21202, and are writing to notify your office of an incident that may affect the security of certain personal information relating to five (5) Maryland residents. By providing this notice, Mason & Carter 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 or about Friday, July 12, 2024, Mason & Carter became aware of suspicious activity related to an employee email account. We immediately took steps to secure the email account and launched an investigation, with the assistance of third-party forensic specialists, to determine the nature and scope of the activity. Through our investigation, we determined that an unknown actor accessed one (1) Mason & Carter employee email account between June 18, 2024 and July 12, 2024.

Upon becoming aware of the unauthorized access, Mason & Carter began a comprehensive review of the files that could have been viewed and/or accessed to determine whether any sensitive information was contained within those files. The review to identify potentially impacted individuals was recently completed, and Mason & Carter promptly provided notification to the five (5) referenced Maryland residents whose information was impacted. The potentially impacted information includes those individuals' names and driver's license numbers.

Notice to Maryland Residents

On or about November 25, 2024, Mason & Carter provided written notice of this incident to five (5) 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

Mason & Carter is providing access to credit monitoring services for 12 months through Experian to individuals whose personal information was potentially affected by this incident, at no cost to these individuals.

Additionally, Mason & Carter is providing impacted individuals with guidance on how to better protect against identity theft and fraud, including advising individuals to report any suspected incidents of identity theft or fraud to their credit card company and/or bank. Mason & Carter 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.

Contact Information

Should you have any questions regarding this notification or other aspects of the data security event, please contact us at (267) 930-4256.

Very truly yours,

Justin Schiff of
MULLEN COUGHLIN LLC

JXS/mah
Enclosure

EXHIBIT A

Mason & Carter Letterhead

<<Name 1>> <<Name 2>>

<<Address 1>>

<<Address 2>>

<<Date>>

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

<<Country>>

Dear <<Name 1>> <<Name 2>>:

Mason & Carter, Inc. ("Mason & Carter") writes to inform you of a recent event that may have impacted the privacy of some of your information. While we are unaware of any attempted or actual misuse of your information, we are providing you with this notice to inform you of the event, our response, and resources available to you to help protect your information, should you feel it appropriate to do so.

What Happened? On or about Friday, July 12, 2024, Mason & Carter became aware of suspicious activity related to an employee email account. We immediately took steps to secure the email account and launched an investigation, with the assistance of third-party forensic specialists, to determine the nature and scope of the activity. Through our investigation, we determined that an unknown actor accessed one (1) Mason & Carter employee email account between June 18, 2024 and July 12, 2024 and was able to view and/or access certain data found within the referenced email account during their period of unauthorized access.

Upon becoming aware of the unauthorized access, we began a diligent and comprehensive process to review the impacted emails and attachments to identify the individuals whose information may have been contained within the impacted data. That process recently completed, and we are providing you with notification given that your information was contained within the impacted data.

What Information Was Involved? Our investigation determined that at the time of the event, your name and driver's license information were impacted. We are unaware of any attempted or actual misuse of your information as a result of this event.

What We Are Doing. The confidentiality, privacy, and security of information in our care are among our highest priorities, and we take this event very seriously. Upon becoming aware of the activity, we immediately took steps to secure our environment and investigate the activity. We also reviewed our security policies and procedures and are enhancing our security measures to reduce the risk of similar future events.

As an added precaution, we are offering you access to credit monitoring and identity restoration services for twelve (12) months at no cost to you, through Experian. Individuals who wish to receive these services must enroll by following the below enrollment instructions, as we are unable to activate them on your behalf.

What You Can Do. We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your account and free credit reports for suspicious activity and to detect errors. Additional information and resources are included in the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information*. You may also enroll in the complementary credit-monitoring services available to you.

For More Information. If you have additional questions, please contact Mason & Carter at (xxx) xxx-xxxx from Mondays through Fridays 9:00am to 5:00pm Eastern. You may also write to Mason & Carter at 23 South Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21202.

Sincerely,

Mason & Carter, Inc.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

Enroll in Monitoring Services

[CRM ENROLLMENT INSTRUCTIONS]

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 District of Columbia residents, the District of Columbia Attorney General may be contacted at: 400 6th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20001; 202-727-3400; and oag.dc.gov.

For Maryland residents, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at: 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-576-6300 or 1-888-743-0023; and <https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov>.