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December 18, 2024

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

Anthony G. Brown
Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
Attn: Security Breach Notification
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202

Re: Incident Notification

Dear Attorney General Brown:

We are writing on behalf of our client, Centinel Financial Group, LLC, to notify your office of a security incident. Centinel Financial Group, LLC is a financial advisory firm located in Needham Heights, Massachusetts.

On April 29, 2024, Centinel Financial Group, LLC launched an investigation into suspicious activity associated with an advisor's email account. Centinel Financial Group, LLC took steps to secure the email account and began an investigation. Centinel Financial Group, LLC has no evidence that any information was stolen or misused. On September 18, 2024, the investigation determined the account contained emails or attachments with personal information including names, Social Security numbers, financial account numbers and driver's license numbers. Centinel Financial Group, LLC then worked to identify addresses for the individuals whose information was involved, including one (1) Maryland resident.

On December 17, 2024, Centinel Financial Group, LLC mailed a notification letter to the Maryland resident via U.S. mail in accordance with Md. Code Ann., Com. Law § 14-3504.¹ A copy of the notification letter is enclosed. Centinel Financial Group, LLC is providing a telephone

¹ This report is not, and does not constitute, a waiver of Centinel Financial Group, LLC's objection that Maryland lacks personal jurisdiction over the company related to this matter.

December 18, 2024

Page 2

number for notified individuals to call with any questions they may have about the incident. Centinel Financial Group, LLC is offering notified individuals a complimentary one-year membership to credit monitoring and identity protection services.

To help prevent this type of incident from happening again, Centinel Financial Group, LLC has implemented additional measures to enhance its existing email controls.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

David Potter

David Potter
Counsel

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>>:

We are writing to notify you of a security incident that may have involved some of your personal information. This letter explains the incident, outlines the measures we have taken, and provides steps you can take in response.

What Happened?

On April 29, 2024, we identified suspicious activity associated with your advisor's email account. We took steps to secure the account and launched an investigation. After an exhaustive investigation, we are not able to rule out that an unauthorized individual accessed your advisor's email account. While we have no evidence that your specific information was accessed or misused, we are notifying you out of an abundance of caution. The security of your financial accounts is our primary concern. On a positive note, this incident only involved your advisor's email account and did not affect any other Osaic or Centinel computer systems and there is no impact to these associated systems or data.

What Information Was Involved?

Following our investigation, on September 18, 2024, we determined the account contained an email or attachment that may have included your information, including your name, address, date of birth, driver's license number, financial account number, Social Security number, and/or other information related to the accounts we service on your behalf.

What Are We Doing?

We remain committed to safeguarding the information in our care and will continue to take steps to further protect your information. We have implemented additional measures to enhance our existing security and will continue to monitor our advisors' email accounts for any suspicious activity. Additionally, we have secured the services of Kroll to provide identity monitoring at no cost to you for one year. The identity monitoring services we are making available to you include identity monitoring, fraud consultation, and identity theft restoration. For more information on the identity monitoring services offered, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary membership, please visit the below website and see the additional information provided with this letter.

Visit <https://enroll.krollmonitoring.com> to activate and take advantage of your identity monitoring services.

You have until <<b2b_text_6(activation deadline)>> to activate your identity monitoring services.

Membership Number: <<Membership Number s_n>>

What You Can Do.

We encourage you to sign up for the complimentary identity monitoring service. We also recommend that you remain vigilant to the possibility of fraud by reviewing your financial account statements and credit reports for any unauthorized activity over the next 12 to 24 months. You should immediately report any suspicious activity to your financial institution. For further details, including some additional steps you can take to help protect your information, please see the pages that follow this letter.

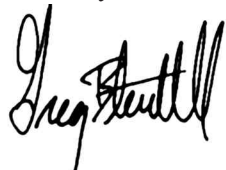
Securities and investment advisory services offered through Osaic Wealth, Inc. member FINRA/SIPC. Osaic Wealth is separately owned and other entities and/or marketing names, products or services referenced here are independent of Osaic Wealth.

ELN-23328

For More Information.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. If you have any questions, please email gblaisdell@centinelfg.com or call (781) 446-5023, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Eastern Time, excluding major U.S. holidays.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Blaisdell". The signature is stylized with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

Gregory Blaisdell
Director of Supervision



TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR IDENTITY MONITORING SERVICES

You have been provided with access to the following services from Kroll:

Single Bureau Credit Monitoring

You will receive alerts when there are changes to your credit data—for instance, when a new line of credit is applied for in your name. If you do not recognize the activity, you will have the option to call a Kroll fraud specialist, who will be able to help you determine if it is an indicator of identity theft.

Fraud Consultation

You have unlimited access to consultation with a Kroll fraud specialist. Support includes showing you the most effective ways to protect your identity, explaining your rights and protections under the law, assistance with fraud alerts, and interpreting how personal information is accessed and used, including investigating suspicious activity that could be tied to an identity theft event.

Identity Theft Restoration

If you become a victim of identity theft, an experienced Kroll licensed investigator will work on your behalf to resolve related issues. You will have access to a dedicated investigator who understands your issues and can do most of the work for you. Your investigator will be able to dig deep to uncover the scope of the identity theft, and then work to resolve it.

Kroll's activation website is only compatible with the current version or one version earlier of Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Edge.

To receive credit services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file.

ADDITIONAL STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

We remind you it is always advisable to be vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing your account statements and free credit reports for any unauthorized activity over the next 12 to 24 months. You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies. To order your annual free credit report, please visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call toll free at 1-877-322-8228. Contact information for the three nationwide credit reporting companies is as follows:

- *Equifax*, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, www.equifax.com, 1-888-378-4329
- *Experian*, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742
- *TransUnion*, PO Box 1000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-800-799-5355

If you believe you are the victim of identity theft or have reason to believe your personal information has been misused, you should immediately contact the Federal Trade Commission and/or the Attorney General's office in your state. You can obtain information from these sources about steps an individual can take to avoid identity theft as well as information about fraud alerts and security freezes. You should also contact your local law enforcement authorities and file a police report. Obtain a copy of the police report in case you are asked to provide copies to creditors to correct your records. Contact information for the Federal Trade Commission is as follows:

- *Federal Trade Commission*, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), www.identitytheft.gov

Fraud Alerts and Credit or Security Freezes:

Fraud Alerts: There are two types of general fraud alerts you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud—an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for one year. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft with the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years.

To place a fraud alert on your credit reports, contact one of the nationwide credit bureaus. A fraud alert is free. The credit bureau you contact must tell the other two, and all three will place an alert on their versions of your report.

For those in the military who want to protect their credit while deployed, an Active Duty Military Fraud Alert lasts for one year and can be renewed for the length of your deployment. The credit bureaus will also take you off their marketing lists for pre-screened credit card offers for two years, unless you ask them not to.

Credit or Security Freezes: You have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, free of charge, which makes it more difficult for identity thieves to open new accounts in your name. That's because most creditors need to see your credit report before they approve a new account. If they can't see your report, they may not extend the credit.

How do I place a freeze on my credit reports? There is no fee to place or lift a security freeze. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a security freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. For information and instructions to place a security freeze, contact each of the credit reporting agencies at the addresses below:

- **Experian Security Freeze**, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com
- **TransUnion Security Freeze**, PO Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094, www.transunion.com
- **Equifax Security Freeze**, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.com

You'll need to supply your name, address, date of birth, Social Security number and other personal information.

After receiving your freeze request, each credit bureau will provide you with a unique PIN (personal identification number) or password. Keep the PIN or password in a safe place. You will need it if you choose to lift the freeze.

How do I lift a freeze? A freeze remains in place until you ask the credit bureau to temporarily lift it or remove it altogether. If the request is made online or by phone, a credit bureau must lift a freeze within one hour. If the request is made by mail, then the bureau must lift the freeze no later than three business days after getting your request.

If you opt for a temporary lift because you are applying for credit or a job, and you can find out which credit bureau the business will contact for your file, you can save some time by lifting the freeze only at that particular credit bureau. Otherwise, you need to make the request with all three credit bureaus.

Centinel Financial Group LLC is located at 160 Gould Street, Suite 212, Needham Heights, MA 02494, (781) 446-5016.

Additional information for residents of the following states:

Maryland: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *Maryland Attorney General's Office*, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023 / 1-410-576-6300, www.oag.state.md.us

Rhode Island: This incident involves 6 individuals in Rhode Island. Under Rhode Island law, you have the right to file and obtain a copy of a police report. You also have the right to request a security freeze, as described above. You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *Rhode Island Attorney General's Office*, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, 1-401-274-4400, www.riag.ri.gov