



MULLEN  
COUGHLIN<sup>LLC</sup>  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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January 14, 2025

**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](mailto:idtheft@oag.state.md.us)

**Re: Notice of Data Event**

To Whom It May Concern:

We represent Lindsey Coley Attorney at Law PLLC ("Firm") located at 16440 Booker T. Washington Highway, Suite 304B, Moneta, Virginia 24121 and are writing to notify your office of an event that may affect the security of certain personal information relating to approximately one (1) Maryland resident. By providing this notice, Firm 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 September 21, 2024, Firm became aware of suspicious activity in its network. Firm promptly took steps to secure its systems and initiated an investigation into the nature and scope of the event. The investigation determined that certain files on Firm's network were accessed or acquired without authorization from September 11, 2024, to September 21, 2024. In response, Firm undertook a thorough review of the affected data to determine what information was present and to whom it relates. Firm completed this review on December 11, 2024, and identified that personal information related to certain individuals was present in the affected files.

The personal information that could have been subject to unauthorized access includes name and Social Security number.

### **Notice to Maryland Resident**

On or about January 14, 2025, Firm provided written notice of this event to approximately 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**

Upon discovering the event, Firm moved quickly to respond and investigate the suspicious activity, secure its network, and notify potentially impacted individuals. Further, Firm notified federal law enforcement regarding the event. Firm is also currently reviewing its policies and procedures to reduce the likelihood of similar future events. Firm is providing access to credit monitoring services for twelve (12) months through Experian, to individuals whose personal information was potentially affected by this event, at no cost to these individuals.

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

Firm is providing written notice of this event to relevant state regulators, as necessary.

### **Contact Information**

Should you have any questions regarding this notification or other aspects of the data security event, please contact us at (267) 930-4345.

Very truly yours,

Erica Wicas of  
MULLEN COUGHLIN LLC

EMW/mah  
Enclosure

# EXHIBIT A

Return Mail Processing  
PO Box 509  
Claysburg PA 16625-0589

M6937 0000001 P001 T00001 \*\*\*\*\*SCH 5-DIGIT 12345  
SAMPLE A SAMPLE - L01 INDIVIDUAL  
123 ANY STREET  
APT ABC  
ANYTOWN, ST 12345-6789

A standard linear barcode representing the address information above it.

**For More Information.** We understand you may have questions about this event not addressed in this letter. If you have any questions, please contact 844-265-7377 Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 9:00 pm EST (excluding major U.S. holidays). You may also write to Firm at 16440 Booker T. Washington Highway, Suite 304B, Moneta, Virginia 24121.

Sincerely,

*Lindsey A. Coley, Attorney at Law, PLLC*

## 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 IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup> for ## months.

If you believe there was fraudulent use of your information as a result of this incident 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 ## 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](http://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 ##-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 April 30, 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 844-265-7377 by April 30, 2025. Be prepared to provide engagement number ENGAGE# as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.

### **ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR ##-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.<sup>1</sup>
- 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<sup>TM</sup>: You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance<sup>2</sup>: Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

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<sup>1</sup> Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling.

<sup>2</sup> 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](http://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:

| <b>Equifax</b>                                                                                                                  | <b>Experian</b>                                                             | <b>TransUnion</b>                                                                           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/">https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/</a> | <a href="https://www.experian.com/help/">https://www.experian.com/help/</a> | <a href="https://www.transunion.com/credit-help">https://www.transunion.com/credit-help</a> |
| 1-888-298-0045                                                                                                                  | 1-888-397-3742                                                              | 1-800-916-8800                                                                              |
| Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069<br>Atlanta, GA 30348-5069                                                                  | Experian Fraud Alert, P.O.<br>Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013                     | TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box<br>2000, Chester, PA 19016                                 |
| Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 105788<br>Atlanta, GA 30348-5788                                                                | Experian Credit Freeze, P.O.<br>Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013                   | TransUnion Credit Freeze, P.O.<br>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, DC 20580; [www.identitytheft.gov](http://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, DC 20001; 202-727-3400; and [oag.dc.gov](http://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/>. Firm's contact information is as follows: 16440 Booker T. Washington Highway, Suite 304B, Smith Mountain Lake, Virginia 24121 and 540-407-9858

*For New Mexico residents*, consumers have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in their credit file has been used against them, the right to know what is in their credit file, the right to ask for their credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the consumer reporting bureaus must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to consumers' files is limited; consumers must give consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; consumers may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance based on information in their credit report; and consumers may seek damages from violators. Consumers may have additional rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act not summarized here. Identity theft victims and active-duty military personnel have specific additional rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage consumers to review their rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting [www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\\_cfpb\\_summary\\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504_cfpb_summary_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf), or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

*For New York residents*, the New York Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; or <https://ag.ny.gov>.

*For North Carolina residents*, the North Carolina Attorney General may be contacted at: 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; and [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov).

*For Rhode Island residents*, the Rhode Island Attorney General may be reached at: 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903; [www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov); and 1-401-274-4400. Under Rhode Island law, individuals have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this event. There are approximately 0 Rhode Island residents that may be impacted by this event.

