



MULLEN
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January 16, 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

Re: Notice of Data Event

To Whom It May Concern:

We represent NewsBank, Inc. ("NewsBank") located at 5801 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Suite 600, Naples, FL 34108-2734, and are writing to notify your office of an incident that may affect the security of certain personal information relating to approximately eighteen (18) Maryland residents. By providing this notice, NewsBank 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 July 1, 2024, NewsBank identified suspicious network activity. NewsBank immediately took steps to secure their network and launched an investigation, with the assistance of third-party forensic specialists, to determine the nature and scope of the activity. Through their investigation, NewsBank determined that certain NewsBank computer systems were accessed by an unknown actor between June 20, 2024 and July 1, 2024, and certain information contained within those systems was viewed or downloaded by the unknown actor. NewsBank undertook a comprehensive and time-intensive review of the impacted records to determine what information was impacted, and to whom it related, and to identify contact information for purposes of providing notifications. Those efforts recently completed, and NewsBank provided written notification to individuals whose information was contained within the impacted files.

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

Notice to Maryland Residents

On or about January 16, 2025, NewsBank began providing written notice of this incident to approximately eighteen (18) 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

Upon becoming aware the event, NewsBank moved quickly to investigate and respond to the incident, assess the security of NewsBank systems, and identify potentially affected individuals. Further, NewsBank notified federal law enforcement regarding the event. NewsBank is also working to implement additional safeguards and training to its employees. NewsBank is providing access to credit monitoring services for one (1) year, through TransUnion, to individuals whose personal information was potentially affected by this incident, at no cost to these individuals.

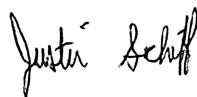
Additionally, NewsBank is providing impacted individuals with guidance on how to better protect against identity theft and fraud, including advising individuals to report any suspected incidents of identity theft or fraud to their credit card company and/or bank. NewsBank is providing individuals with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

NewsBank is also providing written notice of this incident 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) 930-4256.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Schiff".

Justin Schiff of
MULLEN COUGHLIN LLC

JXS/sph
Enclosure

EXHIBIT A



January 16, 2025

NOTICE OF SECURITY INCIDENT

Dear _____ :

NewsBank, Inc. ("NewsBank") writes to inform you of a recent event that may have impacted the confidentiality of some of your information. This letter provides you with information about 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 Monday, July 1, 2024, NewsBank identified suspicious network activity. We immediately took steps to secure our network 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 certain NewsBank computer systems were accessed by an unknown actor between June 20, 2024, and July 1, 2024, and certain information contained within those systems was viewed or downloaded by the unknown actor. We therefore undertook a comprehensive and time-intensive review of the impacted records to determine what information was impacted, and to whom it related, and to identify contact information for purposes of providing notifications. That process was recently completed, and we are providing you with notification given that your information was contained within the impacted data.

What Information Was Involved? The types of information that were subject to unauthorized access include your name and Social Security number.

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 promptly notified federal law enforcement of the event. Additionally, we reviewed our security policies and procedures and have taken steps to enhance 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 Cyberscout, a TransUnion company. 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 NewsBank at 1-833-799-4327 from Mondays through Fridays 9:00am to 5:00pm Eastern Time, excluding holidays. You may also write to NewsBank at 5801 Pelican Bay Boulevard, Suite 600, Naples, FL 34108-2734.

Sincerely,

NewsBank, Inc.

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

Enroll in Monitoring Services

To enroll in Credit Monitoring services at no charge, please log on to <https://bfs.cyberscout.com/activate> and follow the instructions provided. When prompted please provide the following unique code to receive services:

. In order for you to receive the monitoring services described above, you must enroll within 90 days from the date of this letter. The enrollment requires an internet connection and e-mail account and may not be available to minors under the age of 18 years of age. Please note that when signing up for monitoring services, you may be asked to verify personal information for your own protection to confirm your identity.



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) 442-9828; 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/>.

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, 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.

For Rhode Island residents, the Rhode Island Attorney General may be reached at: 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903; 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 twelve (12) Rhode Island residents that may be impacted by this event.