



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

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426 W. Lancaster Avenue, Suite 200  
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February 25, 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 Godwin Manufacturing Co, Inc. ("Godwin") located at P.O. Box 1147, Dunn, North Carolina 28335, and write to notify your office of an event that may affect the security of information relating to a Maryland resident. This notice may be supplemented if significant new facts are learned subsequent to its submission. By providing this notice, Godwin 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 around March 11, 2024, Godwin identified suspicious activity on certain computer systems, including the malicious encryption of files. Godwin immediately launched an extensive investigation to determine the nature and scope of the event and worked quickly to secure its systems and determine whether this event resulted in any impact to information. Godwin also promptly reported this event to federal law enforcement. Through its investigation, Godwin determined that an unknown actor gained access to certain systems and was likely able to view or download certain data between March 5, 2024, and March 11, 2024.

In an abundance of caution, Godwin then conducted a comprehensive and time-intensive third-party review of the information stored on the impacted systems to determine what information was potentially affected and to whom the information related. After which, Godwin undertook a manual review of its records to determine the identities and contact information for potentially affected individuals to issue notifications. Godwin recently completed its review.

The personal information that could have been subject to unauthorized access for the Maryland resident includes: name and Social Security number.

### **Notice to the Maryland Resident**

On or about February 25, 2025, Godwin provided written notice of this event to potentially affected individuals, including approximately one (1) Maryland resident. Written notice is being provided in substantially the same form as the letter attached hereto as ***Exhibit A***.

### **Other Steps Taken and To Be Taken**

Upon becoming aware of the event, Godwin moved quickly to investigate and respond, assess the security of its computer systems, and identify potentially affected individuals. In addition, Godwin is working to implement additional cybersecurity safeguards and training to its employees. Godwin is also 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. Godwin also established a toll-free call center to address any questions from notified individuals.

Additionally, Godwin is providing potentially affected 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. Godwin 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.

Godwin is providing written notice of this event to appropriate state privacy regulators and the three major consumer 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) 930-4802.

Very truly yours,



Samuel Sica, III of  
MULLEN COUGHLIN LLC

SZS/reh  
Enclosure

# **EXHIBIT A**



Return Mail Processing  
PO Box 999  
Suwanee, GA 30024

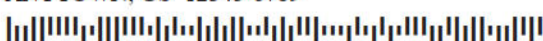
14 1 2447 \*\*\*\*\*SNGLP

SAMPLE A. SAMPLE - L01

APT ABC

123 ANY ST

ANYTOWN, US 12345-6789



February 25, 2025

Dear Sample A. Sample:

Godwin Manufacturing Co, Inc. ("Godwin") writes to inform you of an event that may have affected the security of certain information related to you. While we have no indications of identity theft or fraud as a result of this event, this notice provides 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 around March 11, 2024, Godwin identified suspicious activity on certain computer systems. We immediately launched an extensive investigation to determine the nature and scope of the event and worked quickly to secure our systems and determine whether this event resulted in any impact to information housed on our systems. We also promptly reported this event to federal law enforcement. Through our investigation, we determined that an unknown actor gained access to certain systems and was likely able to view or download certain data between March 5, 2024 and March 11, 2024.

In an abundance of caution, we then conducted a comprehensive and time-intensive third-party review of the information stored on the impacted systems to determine what information was potentially affected and to whom the information related. After which, we undertook a manual review of our records to determine the identities and contact information for potentially affected individuals to issue notifications. We recently completed our review.

**What Information Was Involved?** Our investigation determined that at the time of the event, your name and [Extra1] were stored within the impacted systems and may have been affected by 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 systems and initiated a comprehensive incident response. We also reviewed our security policies and procedures 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 12 months at no cost to you, through Experian. Enrollment instructions are enclosed with this letter.

**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 Personal Information*. You may also enroll in the complementary credit-monitoring services available to you.

**For More Information.** If you have additional questions, please contact our toll-free assistance line at 1-833-918-8326 Monday through Friday from 9:00 am ET to 9:00 pm ET (excluding U.S. holidays). You may also write to Godwin at P.O. Box 1147, Dunn, NC 28335.

Sincerely,

James P. Godwin  
Owner  
Godwin Manufacturing Co, 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 IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup> for 12 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 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](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 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** May 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 1-833-918-8326 by May 30, 2025. Be prepared to provide engagement number B139776 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<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>\*\*</sup>:** 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](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 one-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. Consumers should be aware, however, 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. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013                        | TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016                                    |
| Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 105788<br>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](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. 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/>.

*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).