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March 28, 2025

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: Data Security Incident

Dear Attorney General Brown:

We are writing on behalf of our client, Kahle and Associates CPA LLC (collectively “Kahle”), to notify you of a data security incident.

On August 24, 2024, Kahle identified unusual activity in its network. In response, Kahle secured its network and commenced an investigation. Through its investigation, Kahle determined that, on August 20, 2024, an unauthorized party gained access to its network environment and took certain files from their systems.

Kahle undertook a comprehensive search and review of the files that were taken. On March 3, 2025, the review determined that the information involved included the names, driver’s license numbers, account numbers, and Social Security numbers of two (2) Maryland residents.

Beginning on March 28, 2025, Kahle mailed notification letters via United States Postal Service First-Class mail to the Maryland residents whose information was involved, in accordance with Md. Code Ann., Com. Law § 14-3504¹. A copy of the notification letter is enclosed. Kahle is offering notified individuals complimentary one-year memberships to credit monitoring services

¹ This report does not waive Kahle and Associates CPA LLC’s objection that Maryland lacks regulatory authority over it related to any claims that may arise from this incident.

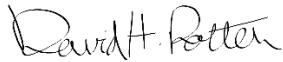
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through Equifax. Kahle has also established a dedicated, toll-free call center to answer questions that letter recipients may have.

To help prevent something like this from happening again, Kahle has implemented, and will continue to adopt, additional safeguards and technical security measures to further protect and monitor its systems.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David H. Potter".

David H. Potter
Counsel

Enclosure



Secure Processing Center
25 Route 111, P.O. Box 1048
Smithtown, NY 11787

Postal Endorsement Line

<<Full Name>>

<<Address 1>>

<<Address 2>>

<<Address 3>>

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

<<Country>>

***Postal IMB Barcode

<<Date>>

Dear <<Full Name>>:

Kahle and Associates CPA is writing to inform you of an incident that involved some of your information. This letter explains the incident, the measures we have taken, and some additional steps you may consider taking.

On August 24, 2024, we identified and addressed a security incident that involved unauthorized access to our network. Upon identifying the activity, we promptly took steps to secure the network and began our investigation, and we also reported the incident to law enforcement. The investigation determined that the unauthorized actor acquired certain files on our network on August 20, 2024. We reviewed the files to determine if they contained any personal information. On February 28, 2025, we determined that one or more of the files contained your name and one or more of the following: account number, driver's license number, tax identification number, and/or Social Security number.

We have arranged to provide identity monitoring at no cost to you for one year through Equifax. The identity monitoring services we are making available to you include Credit Monitoring, Fraud Consultation, and Identity Theft Restoration. For more information on identity theft prevention and Equifax Credit Watch Gold, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary membership, please see the additional information provided with this letter.

We apologize for any concern or inconvenience this incident may cause. We have taken, and will continue to take, steps to enhance the security of our email environment. If you have any questions about this incident, please call 888-408-3177, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern, excluding some major U.S. holidays.

Sincerely,

Kahle and Associates CPA LLC



<<Full Name>>

Enter your Activation Code: <<ACTIVATION CODE>>

Enrollment Deadline: <<Enrollment Deadline>>

Equifax Credit Watch™ Gold

*Note: You must be over age 18 with a credit file to take advantage of the product

Key Features

- Credit monitoring with email notifications of key changes to your Equifax credit report
- Daily access to your Equifax credit report
- WebScan notifications¹ when your personal information, such as Social Security Number, credit/debit card or bank account numbers are found on fraudulent Internet trading sites
- Automatic fraud alerts², which encourages potential lenders to take extra steps to verify your identity before extending credit, plus blocked inquiry alerts and Equifax credit report lock³
- Identity Restoration to help restore your identity should you become a victim of identity theft, and a dedicated Identity Restoration Specialist to work on your behalf
- Up to \$1,000,000 of identity theft insurance coverage for certain out of pocket expenses resulting from identity theft⁴

Enrollment Instructions

Go to www.equifax.com/activate

Enter your unique Activation Code of <<ACTIVATION CODE>> then click “Submit” and follow these 4 steps:

1. **Register:**

Complete the form with your contact information and click “Continue”.

If you already have a myEquifax account, click the ‘Sign in here’ link under the “Let’s get started” header.

Once you have successfully signed in, you will skip to the Checkout Page in Step 4

2. **Create Account:**

Enter your email address, create a password, and accept the terms of use.

3. **Verify Identity:**

To enroll in your product, we will ask you to complete our identity verification process.

4. **Checkout:**

Upon successful verification of your identity, you will see the Checkout Page.

Click ‘Sign Me Up’ to finish enrolling.

You’re done!

The confirmation page shows your completed enrollment.

Click “View My Product” to access the product features.

¹WebScan searches for your Social Security Number, up to 5 passport numbers, up to 6 bank account numbers, up to 6 credit/debit card numbers, up to 6 email addresses, and up to 10 medical ID numbers. WebScan searches thousands of Internet sites where consumers' personal information is suspected of being bought and sold, and regularly adds new sites to the list of those it searches. However, the Internet addresses of these suspected Internet trading sites are not published and frequently change, so there is no guarantee that we are able to locate and search every possible Internet site where consumers' personal information is at risk of being traded. ²The Automatic Fraud Alert feature is made available to consumers by Equifax Information Services LLC and fulfilled on its behalf by Equifax Consumer Services LLC. ³Locking your Equifax credit report will prevent access to it by certain third parties. Locking your Equifax credit report will not prevent access to your credit report at any other credit reporting agency. Entities that may still have access to your Equifax credit report include: companies like Equifax Global Consumer Solutions, which provide you with access to your credit report or credit score, or monitor your credit report as part of a subscription or similar service; companies that provide you with a copy of your credit report or credit score, upon your request; federal, state and local government agencies and courts in certain circumstances; companies using the information in connection with the underwriting of insurance, or for employment, tenant or background screening purposes; companies that have a current account or relationship with you, and collection agencies acting on behalf of those whom you owe; companies that authenticate a consumer's identity for purposes other than granting credit, or for investigating or preventing actual or potential fraud; and companies that wish to make pre-approved offers of credit or insurance to you. To opt out of such pre-approved offers, visit www.optoutprescreen.com ⁴The Identity Theft Insurance benefit is underwritten and administered by American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida, an Assurant company, under group or blanket policies issued to Equifax, Inc., or its respective affiliates for the benefit of its Members. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions.

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. 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, 1-800-685-1111
- *Experian*, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742
- *TransUnion*, PO Box 1000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-833-799-5355

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:

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

The business address for Kahle and Associates is 401 W Main Cross St., Findlay, OH 45840 and can be reached by telephone at 419-424-0326.

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, <https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/>

New York: You may contact and obtain information from these state agencies: *New York Department of State Division of Consumer Protection*, One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12231-0001, 518-474-8583 / 1-800-697-1220, <http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection>; and *New York State Office of the Attorney General*, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12244-0341, 1-800-771-7755, <https://ag.ny.gov>

North Carolina: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *North Carolina Attorney General's Office*, 9001 Mail Service Centre, Raleigh, NC 27699, 1-919-716-6000 / 1-877-566-7226, www.ncdoj.gov