

Schmitt & Battaglini Tax & Accounting Inc.  
407 S Tower  
Centralia, WA 98531

[Recipient Name]  
[Address]  
[City, State, Zip]

July 6, 2026

**RE: Important Security Notification. Please Read This Entire Letter.**

Dear [Recipient Name]:

Schmitt & Battaglini Tax & Accounting Inc. recently discovered a data security incident that may have affected the security of certain client information. We are writing to provide information about the incident, the steps we have taken in response, and steps you may take to help protect against identity theft and fraud.

**What Happened**

On May 28, 2026, an unauthorized party accessed our system. We discovered the incident on June 4, 2026. The incident directly affected 18 clients, and fraudulent tax returns were filed using those clients' Social Security numbers.

At this time, we are not aware of a fraudulent tax return being filed using your Social Security number. However, because there was unauthorized access to our system, we are offering credit monitoring and identity protection services to all clients out of an abundance of caution.

**What Information May Have Been Involved**

The information potentially accessible may have included personal and financial information maintained in connection with tax preparation services, including names, Social Security numbers, tax records, and financial or banking information.

Because financial information may have been accessible, we recommend that you contact your bank or financial institution and notify them of this incident. If your financial institution determines that account number changes are necessary, we will reimburse you for any related costs.

**What We Are Doing**

We take the protection of your personal information seriously. After discovering the incident, we contacted the IRS and requested appropriate protections to help prevent fraudulent tax filings. We also contacted the Washington State Attorney General's Office, the Federal Trade Commission, and the FBI.

We have changed passwords, strengthened account access controls, and implemented dual verification for access to our systems.

### **Complimentary Experian IdentityWorks Membership**

To help protect your identity, we are offering complimentary access to Experian IdentityWorks(SM) for 12 months. We will assist you with setting up the monitoring and protection services. The URL is <https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcreditmembership>.

### **Additional Steps You Can Take**

You may wish to place a fraud alert or security freeze on your credit reports and monitor your financial accounts, billing statements, and credit reports for suspicious activity. You may request free credit reports at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or by calling 1-877-322-8228.

You may contact the major credit reporting agencies at:

Equifax  
P.O. Box 105788  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788  
1-800-525-6285  
[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)

Experian  
P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742  
[www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)

TransUnion  
P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016  
1-800-680-7289  
[www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)

If you believe you may be the victim of identity theft, you may also report it to the Federal Trade Commission at [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov).

We sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause. If you have questions, please call 360-748-9991. Please note that I am currently recovering from medical treatment and my voice is weak, especially by phone, so response times may be slower than usual. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

Sincerely,

Joseph Battaglino  
President  
Schmitt & Battaglino Tax & Accounting Inc.

## SCHMITT & BATTAGLINO TAX & ACCOUNTING INC.

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407 SO TOWER AVE  
CENTRALIA, WA 98531  
(360) 748-9991 Fax (360) 748-6521

Dear Attorney General's office,

We have had a data breach at our accounting office. We can confirm that the data of 18 clients data was taken and used to file fraudulent tax returns with the Internal Revenue Service. We have contacted the IRS and have frozen all tax accounts. We have changed our EFIN (the number used to file tax returns). We also contacted Federal Trade Commission with this information, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. We are still planning to contract local police but I am not sure if the is useful since it is an online crime.

We are not sure if any of the other client's data was compromised, we have had the IRS freeze all the client's tax accounts. We will notify all the clients in the next week of the potential data loss and offer them credit monitoring too. I am in the process of contracting the 3 credit bureaus. We are going to offer credit monitoring through Experian.

Sincerely,

Joseph Battaglino

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407 SO TOWER AVE  
CENTRALIA, WA 98531  
(360) 748-9991 Fax (360) 748-6521

We write this letter to inform you that we recently discovered on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026, that we had an unauthorized 3<sup>rd</sup> party access sensitive data from our clients in our tax return software. This information includes social security numbers, tax return information, and information from tax documents that were recorded into our tax software. The IRS was contacted and your account has been frozen due to this freeze we will need to file tax paper returns.

### **What's next:**

The next step we will take is to offer you credit monitoring from Aura to watch for any suspicious activity regarding your credit line. To enroll, please give us a call to our office and/or set up the account. We deeply apologize that this happened and we will take steps going forward to ensure in the future that these happenings will be prevented.

Please contact us if you have further questions and concerns or

if you notice anything suspicious in your accounts and we will assist you on this matter every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Joseph Battaglino