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August 5, 2020

Attorney General Bob Ferguson  
Office of the Attorney General  
1125 Washington Street SE  
PO Box 40100  
Olympia, WA 98504-0100

**Re: Notice of Blackbaud Data Security Incident**

Dear Attorney General Ferguson:

We are writing pursuant to Wash. Rev. Code §§ 19.255.005–.040 to inform you of a data security incident suffered by one of our third-party service providers that appears to have involved the names and potentially non-public birth dates of approximately 1,312 Washington residents.

We were recently notified by one of our third-party service providers, Blackbaud, Inc. (“Blackbaud”), of a security incident that occurred on its system beginning on February 7, 2020 and continuing through May 20, 2020. Cancer Research Institute (“CRI”) is one of many nonprofit organizations that uses Blackbaud as a cloud-based database to research and maintain information about our donors and prospective donors.

Specifically, Blackbaud informed us that in May 2020, it detected and interrupted a ransomware attack. However, before Blackbaud was able to stop this ransomware attack, an unauthorized third party accessed and copied certain data from its system, some of which was unencrypted. Blackbaud has told us that after detecting the attempted ransomware attack, its Cyber Security team—together with independent forensics experts and law enforcement—was able to expel the intruder from Blackbaud’s system. Blackbaud reported to us that it paid a ransom in exchange for confirmation that any data that was accessed and copied by the unauthorized third party was destroyed and that it would not be used or disseminated. Blackbaud has told us that it is monitoring for any evidence that the data has been used or made available, and to date, Blackbaud has uncovered no evidence that the data has been made available.

As a client of Blackbaud, we are not privy to the details of the intrusion, the results of its investigation, or the specifics of the information that was accessed by the intruder. Therefore, our understanding of this incident, the information impacted, and Blackbaud’s efforts to contain it, is based entirely on information we have received from Blackbaud. Blackbaud has informed us that it has already made enhancements to further improve its data security, and that it continues to monitor the web for any signs that the information accessed during this incident has been misused and to monitor its systems for any suspicious activity.

While all of the details regarding the incident are not available to CRI, we understand that as a result of this incident, some CRI constituents’ names were disclosed in connection with partial or full dates of birth that may not be publicly available in government records. This affected approximately 1,312 Washington residents.

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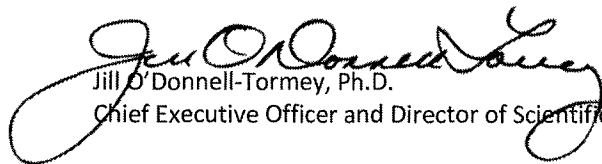
No other personal information that is defined as “personal information” under RCW 19.255.010 was included in the accessed data as far as we know at this time. However, the data copied may have contained information such as a donor’s mailing address and history of giving to CRI as of February 2020.

Concurrently with the filing of this letter, we are sending notifications to affected individuals. A copy of the notification letter is attached.

CRI remains committed to ensuring the security and privacy of its constituents’ information.

Please do not hesitate to contact Alfred R. Massidas, Chief Financial Officer, at (212) 688-7515 x 237 or [amassidas@cancerresearch.org](mailto:amassidas@cancerresearch.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
Jill O'Donnell-Tormey, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer and Director of Scientific Affairs



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August 5, 2020

Name

Address

#### Re: Notice of Blackbaud Data Security Incident

Dear Salutation,

We are writing to let you know about a data security incident suffered by one of our third-party service providers that involved your personal information. Pursuant to Washington State law, Wash. Rev. Code §§ 19.255.005–.040, notice is required in the event that certain non-public personal information about Washington residents, including name together with date of birth, is compromised. More details are below, but please note that no credit card data, bank account information, or social security numbers were accessed in this incident. We are grateful for your support of the Cancer Research Institute (“CRI”), and we provide this notice to you to explain what happened and how you can protect yourself.

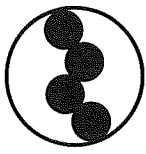
#### What Happened

We were recently notified that Blackbaud, Inc., a provider of cloud-based data management services to CRI and many other nonprofit organizations, experienced a ransomware attack earlier this year. As a client of Blackbaud, we are not privy to all details of the intrusion or the results of Blackbaud’s investigation. Therefore, our understanding of this incident, the information impacted, and Blackbaud’s efforts to contain it, is based entirely on information we have received from Blackbaud.

We understand from Blackbaud that the incident began on February 7, 2020 and is believed to have continued through May 20, 2020, when Blackbaud expelled the attacker from its systems. In this ransomware attack, an unauthorized third party accessed and copied a subset of data stored on Blackbaud’s systems and demanded a ransom payment in exchange for destroying that information. This data included certain information that CRI maintains on a Blackbaud platform regarding our constituents. Blackbaud has advised us that it paid a ransom in exchange for confirmation from the unauthorized third-party that any data that was accessed and copied has been destroyed. Additionally, Blackbaud reports that it is actively monitoring via third party experts and has found no trace of the data on the web. We have no reason to believe at this point that your information was actually used by, or will be disseminated by, the unauthorized third-party.

#### What information Was Involved

There was no unauthorized access to your credit card data or bank account information as part of this incident. We do not use Blackbaud to process financial transactions, and Blackbaud has



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confirmed that no credit card data, bank account information, usernames, passwords, or social security numbers were accessed more generally. However, we have determined that the data which was copied contained certain

information about you, including your name and full or partial date of birth, and may have also contained information such as your mailing address and history of giving to CRI as of February 2020.

## What We Are Doing

CRI takes the protection and proper use of your personal information very seriously. Blackbaud has informed us that the ransomware attack has been fully contained and that its system has been secured. Blackbaud has informed us that it has already made enhancements to further improve its data security, and that it continues to monitor the web for any signs that the information accessed during this incident has been misused and to monitor its systems for any suspicious activity. We have communicated our disappointment regarding this incident to Blackbaud, and we continue to investigate to confirm and better understand what occurred. We are notifying you of this incident so that you can take action to protect yourself.

## What You Can Do

Although we currently have no evidence that your personal information will be misused, we encourage you to remain vigilant and promptly report to us and to the proper law enforcement authorities if you notice any suspicious activity or suspected misuse of your personal information. As a general practice, we recommend that you carefully check your credit reports for accounts you did not open or for inquiries from creditors you did not initiate. Contact information for the major credit reporting agencies is included here:

Equifax  
P.O. Box 740256  
Atlanta, GA 30374  
(866) 349-5191  
[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)

Experian  
P.O. Box 4500  
Allen, TX 75013  
(888) 397-3742  
[www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)

TransUnion  
P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016  
(855) 681-3196  
[www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)

You should regularly review your credit or debit card account statements to determine if there are any discrepancies or unusual activity listed. If you see something you do not recognize, immediately notify your financial institution.

## For More Information

We appreciate your support of our work, and we regret any inconvenience this may cause you. Should you have any further questions or concerns regarding this matter and/or the protections available to you, please do not hesitate to contact Alfred R. Massidas at (212) 688-7515 x 237 or [amassidas@cancerresearch.org](mailto:amassidas@cancerresearch.org).

Sincerely,

Jill O'Donnell-Tormey, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer and Director of Scientific Affairs