



August 11, 2020

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

**RE: Incident Notification**

Dear Attorney General Ferguson:

Pursuant to RCW 42.56.590, The Evergreen State College Foundation (Foundation) is notifying you of a data security incident involving residents of the state of Washington.

**Nature of Breach**

On July 16, Blackbaud informed Evergreen that in May 2020 they discovered—and stopped—a ransomware attack on their computer systems. Blackbaud is one of the world's largest software providers to universities, schools, charities, and other nonprofit organizations, and provides data management services for the Foundation.

Blackbaud reports they paid the ransom demand and believe that copies of the stolen data were destroyed and were not, and will not be, misused. They also report that they corrected the vulnerability that led to this incident and are making changes to protect the Foundation's data from further incidents. Based on Blackbaud's public statements and our direct communications with them, there is no indication that the information has been misused.

The information involved in this incident may have included an affected individual's name, date of birth, student identification number, gender, spouse's name, employment, record of giving to Evergreen, participation in Evergreen events and volunteer activities, and philanthropic interests.

**Number of Affected Individuals**

Evergreen identified 40,549 Washington residents whose name in conjunction with either a date of birth, student identification number, or both, may have been contained in the data accessed during the ransomware attack.

**Steps Evergreen Has Taken With Respect To Incident**

Evergreen immediately conducted an investigation into the matter to determine what information in Evergreen's records may have been impacted. On July 31 The Evergreen State College

Foundation, in conjunction with The Evergreen State College, sent a courtesy email to each individual for whom they had an email address and created a webpage with information about Blackbaud's data security incident.

The Evergreen State College Foundation and The Evergreen State College College will also be sending joint notification to the affected individuals of the possible exposure of their personal information. Attached is a sample copy of the notice, which will be sent by first class mail no later than August 15.

**Contact Information**

For further information about this notice, please contact me. My details appear below.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Walker', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Amanda Walker

**Vice President for Advancement, The Evergreen State College**

**Executive Director, The Evergreen State College Foundation**

[walkera@evergreen.edu](mailto:walkera@evergreen.edu)

Office: 360.867.6300



<<Date>> (Format: Month Day, Year)

<<first\_name>> <<last\_name>>  
<<address\_1>>  
<<address\_2>>  
<<address\_3>>  
<<city>>, <<state\_province>> <<postal\_code>>

## Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear <<first\_name>>,

At The Evergreen State College, we take with exceptional seriousness the privacy and security of the personal information you entrust to us. That's why we're contacting you regarding a recent data security incident involving Blackbaud, Inc., the database software provider we use to maintain alumni, community member and donor information. We've previously sent emails and posted information about this incident on Evergreen's website, and are now sending this letter to be sure potentially affected members of the Evergreen community receive this information. While Blackbaud continues to assure us they don't believe your information was misused in any way, we're providing suggestions for steps you can take to help protect your personal information.

**What happened?** Blackbaud, one of the world's largest software providers to universities, schools, charities, and other nonprofit organizations, provides data management services for Evergreen. On July 16, Blackbaud informed us that in May 2020 they discovered—and stopped—a ransomware attack on their computer systems. We immediately conducted an investigation into the matter to determine what information in our records may have been impacted. Blackbaud reports they paid the ransom demand and believes that copies of the stolen data were destroyed. They also report that they corrected the vulnerability that led to this incident and are making changes to protect our data from further incidents. Based on Blackbaud's public statements and our direct communications with them, there is no indication that your information has been or will be misused.

**What information was involved?** Blackbaud assured us, unequivocally, that the cybercriminal didn't access our donors' credit cards or bank account information because this information is routinely protected by encryption. Notably, Evergreen doesn't store social security numbers in the Blackbaud databases. The information involved in this incident may have included your name, contact information, date of birth, student identification number, gender, spouse's name, employment, record of giving to Evergreen, participation in our events and volunteer activities, and philanthropic interests.

**What are we doing? What you can do:** Upon learning of the incident, we've continued to communicate with Blackbaud to understand the full scope of this matter. Although we have no indication that your information was misused, out of an abundance of caution, you should consider the recommendations on the following page regarding steps you can take to help protect your personal information.

**For more information:** If you have any further questions or concerns regarding this matter, please don't hesitate to call 1-844-963-2699, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday (excluding major U.S. holidays). We're also maintaining a webpage that will remain updated with additional information: [www.evergreen.edu/alumni/blackbaud](http://www.evergreen.edu/alumni/blackbaud).

Please know that we deeply regret any worry or inconvenience this may cause you. Thank you so much for your involvement in and support of Evergreen.

Warm wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Amanda Walker".

Amanda Walker  
Vice President for Advancement, The Evergreen State College  
Executive Director, The Evergreen State College Foundation

**Review Account Statements and Notify Law Enforcement of Suspicious Activity:** As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant and review your account statements and credit reports closely. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained. You should also promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidence of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, your state attorney general, and/or the Federal Trade Commission.

**Credit Report Copy:** You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies once every 12 months by visiting <http://www.annualcreditreport.com/>, calling toll-free 877-322-8228, or by completing an Annual Credit Report Request Form and mailing it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348. You can also contact one of the following three national credit reporting agencies:

<b>Equifax</b>	<b>Experian</b>	<b>TransUnion</b>	<b>Free Annual Report</b>
P.O. Box 105851	P.O. Box 9532	P.O. Box 1000	P.O. Box 105281
Atlanta, GA 30348	Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19016	Atlanta, GA 30348
1-800-525-6285	1-888-397-3742	1-877-322-8228	1-877-322-8228
<a href="http://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>	<a href="http://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>	<a href="http://www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>	<a href="http://annualcreditreport.com">annualcreditreport.com</a>

**Fraud Alert:** You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit file. An initial fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit file for at least one year. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three credit reporting agencies identified above. Additional information is available at <http://www.annualcreditreport.com>.

**Security Freeze:** In some U.S. states, you have the right to put a security freeze on your credit file. This will prevent new credit from being opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate the freeze. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential creditors from accessing your credit report without your consent. As a result, using a security freeze may interfere with or delay your ability to obtain credit. You must separately place a security freeze on your credit file with each credit reporting agency. There is no fee to place, lift or remove the security freeze. In order to place a security freeze, you may be required to provide the consumer reporting agency with information that identifies you including your full name, Social Security number, date of birth, current and previous addresses, a copy of your state-issued identification card, and a recent utility bill, bank statement or insurance statement.

**Additional Free Resources:** You can obtain information from the consumer reporting agencies, the FTC or from your respective state Attorney General about steps you can take toward preventing identity theft. You may report suspected identity theft to local law enforcement, including to the FTC or to the Attorney General in your state of residence.

**Federal Trade Commission:** 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20580, [consumer.ftc.gov](http://consumer.ftc.gov), and [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft), 1-877-438-4338

**Your Rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA):** These rights include knowing what is in your file; disputing incomplete or inaccurate information; and requiring consumer reporting agencies correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information. For more information about the FCRA, please visit <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf-0096-fair-credit-reporting-act.pdf>.