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June 3, 2019

Via E-mail (securitybreach@atg.wa.gov)

Attorney General Bob Ferguson
Office of the Washington Attorney General
Consumer Protection Division
800 5th Ave., Suite 2000
Seattle, WA 98104

Re: Security Incident

Dear Attorney General Ferguson:

We are writing on behalf of our client, the Washington Department of Health (“the Department”), to notify you of a security incident. On April 26, 2019, the Department learned that an employee emailed to a select number of individuals outside the Department a presentation from a webinar conducted in February 2018 that inadvertently included an embedded file containing certain individuals’ personal information. Upon discovering this issue, the Department immediately began an investigation to determine who received the presentation and requested that all external recipients delete it, as well as the email from which it came.

Through its investigation, the Department determined that the file embedded within the presentation included the personal information of 1,336 Washington residents. The personal information involved included the Washington residents’ names, Social Security numbers, medical information, and information relating to behavioral risk factors. Beginning today, the Department is providing notice via postal mail to the potentially affected individuals in substantially the same form as the attached letter.

Protecting personal information is a top priority for the Department. The Department is reviewing and enhancing its measures around data handling in external-facing presentations and is reviewing its workforce training focused on data privacy and security.

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

Atlanta Chicago Cincinnati Cleveland Columbus Costa Mesa Denver
Houston Los Angeles New York Orlando Philadelphia Seattle Washington, DC

Attorney General Bob Ferguson
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Randal L. Gainer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "R" and "G".

Randal L. Gainer
Partner

Attachment



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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

<<FirstName>> <<MiddleName>> <<LastName>> <<NameSuffix>>
<<Address1>>
<<Address2>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

Dear <<FirstName>> <<MiddleName>> <<LastName>> <<NameSuffix>>,

The Washington Department of Health understands the importance of protecting the privacy and security of personal information. Regrettably, we are writing to inform you that we recently identified and addressed a security incident that may have involved some of your personal information. This notice describes the incident, outlines the measures we have taken in response, and provides information regarding steps you can take to help protect your information.

On April 26, 2019, we learned that a Department employee emailed a presentation from a webinar conducted in February 2018 that inadvertently included an embedded file containing certain individuals' personal information to a select number of individuals outside the Department. Upon discovering this issue, we immediately began an investigation to determine who received the presentation and requested that all external recipients delete it, as well as the email from which it came. The file embedded within the presentation may have contained some of your information, including your name, Social Security number, medical information, and information relating to behavioral risk factors.

It is important to note that we have no evidence that this personal information was actually viewed, accessed or misused by an unauthorized individual. However, out of an abundance of caution, we are offering a complimentary one-year membership of Experian's® IdentityWorksSM Credit 3B. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with identity protection services focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft. For more information on identity theft prevention and IdentityWorks Credit 3B, including instructions on how to activate your no-cost one-year membership, please see the additional information provided in this letter.

We deeply regret that this incident occurred and apologize for any concern or inconvenience it may cause you. As part of our efforts to try to prevent something like this from happening again, we continue to review and enhance our measures around data handling in external-facing presentations, and we are reviewing our workforce training focused on data security and privacy. If you have questions about this matter please call <<call center number>>, Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. PT.

Sincerely,

John Wiesman, DrPH, MPH
Secretary of Health

Activate IdentityWorks Credit 3B Now in Three Easy Steps

1. ENROLL by: **08/31/2019** (Your code will not work after this date.)
2. VISIT the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit
3. PROVIDE the Activation Code: <<Code>>

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with identity restoration or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at **1-877-288-8057** by **08/31/2019**. Be prepared to provide engagement number **DB12774** as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services by Experian.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 12-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS CREDIT 3B MEMBERSHIP:

A credit card is **not** required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks Credit 3B.

You can contact Experian immediately without needing to enroll in the product regarding any fraud issues. Identity Restoration specialists are available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.

Once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks, you will have access to the following additional features:

- **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, Equifax and Transunion files for indicators of fraud.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARE™:** You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **Up to \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance**:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

Activate your membership today at <https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit> or call 1-877-288-8057 to register with the activation code above.

What you can do to protect your information: There are additional actions you can consider taking to reduce the chances of identity theft or fraud on your account(s). Please refer to www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration for this information. If you have any questions about IdentityWorks, need help understanding something on your credit report or suspect that an item on your credit report may be fraudulent, please contact Experian's customer care team at 1-877-288-8057.

* Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling.

** Identity theft insurance is underwritten by insurance company subsidiaries or affiliates of American International Group, Inc. (AIG). The description herein is a summary and intended for informational purposes only and does not include all terms, conditions and exclusions of the policies described. 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 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-800-916-8800

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 Centre, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), www.ftc.gov/idtheft

If you are a resident of 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, 1-919-716-6400 / 1-877-566-7226, www.ncdoj.gov

Fraud Alerts: There are two types of 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 (1) 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. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by contacting any of the three national credit reporting agencies.

Credit Freezes: You have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, free of charge, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN that is issued to you when you initiate a freeze. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a security freeze, potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a security freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit.

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 listed below:

- **Experian Security Freeze**, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com
- **TransUnion Security Freeze**, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com
- **Equifax Security Freeze**, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.com

To request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Your full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.)
2. Social Security number
3. Date of birth
4. If you have moved in the past five years, provide the addresses where you have lived over the prior 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, military identification, etc.)
7. If you are a victim of identity theft, include a copy of the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft

The credit reporting agencies have one business day after receiving your request by toll-free telephone or secure electronic means, or three business days after receiving your request by mail, to place a security freeze on your credit report. The credit bureaus must also send written confirmation to you within five business days and provide you with a unique personal identification number ("PIN") or password or both that can be used by you to authorize the removal or lifting of the security freeze.

To lift the security freeze in order to allow a specific entity or individual access to your credit report, or to lift a security freeze for a specified period of time, you must submit a request through a toll-free telephone number, a secure electronic means maintained by a credit reporting agency, or by sending a written request via regular, certified, or overnight mail to the credit reporting agencies and include proper identification (name, address, and Social Security number) and the PIN or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze as well as the identity of those entities or individuals you would like to receive your credit report or the specific period of time you want the credit report available. The credit reporting agencies have one business day after receiving your request by toll-free telephone or secure electronic means, or three business days after receiving your request by mail, to lift the security freeze for those identified entities or for the specified period of time.

To remove the security freeze, you must submit a request through a toll-free telephone number, a secure electronic means maintained by a credit reporting agency, or by sending a written request via regular, certified, or overnight mail to each of the three credit bureaus and include proper identification (name, address, and Social Security number) and the PIN number or password provided to you when you placed the security freeze. The credit bureaus have one business day after receiving your request by toll-free telephone or secure electronic means, or three business days after receiving your request by mail, to remove the security freeze.

A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act: The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Here is a summary of your major rights under FCRA. For more information, including information about additional rights, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

- You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.
- You have the right to know what is in your file.
- You have the right to ask for a credit score.
- You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.
- Consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information.
- Consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information.
- Access to your file is limited.
- You must give your consent for reports to be provided to employers.
- You may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.
- You have a right to place a "security freeze" on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization.
- You may seek damages from violators.
- Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have additional rights.