

Jeffrey A. Meyers Commissioner

Karen E. Hebert Director

### STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

## RECEIVED DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

## DIVISION OF ECONOMIC & HOUSING STABILITY 2 2 2019

# BUREAU OF CHILD SUPPORT SERVICESSUMER PROTECTION

129 PLEASANT STREET, CONCORD, NH 03301 603-271-4429 1-800-852-3345 Ext. 4429 Fax: 603-271-4872 TDD Access: 1-800-735-2964 Automated Voice Response: 1-800-371-8844 www.dhhs.nh.gov

January 17. 2019

Attorney General Gordon MacDonald Office of the Attorney General New Hampshire Department of Justice 33 Capitol Street Concord, NH 03301

#### RE: Security Breach Notification Pursuant to RSA 359-C:20

Dear Attorney General MacDonald:

I am writing to provide Notice of Security Breach pursuant to NH RSA 359-C: 20. On October 25, 2018 the Bureau of Child Support Services (BCSS) became aware that personal and confidential information of two individuals, a New Hampshire resident and a resident of the State of Utah, was mistakenly included within documents filed by BCSS for a Circuit Court Family Division case. The documents were received from another state in a request for BCSS enforcement services pursuant to the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UFISA). The personal information included the name and social security numbers of both parties to the case.

A BCSS Regional Administrator spoke to each party by phone on or about October 25, 2018 to discuss the breach. BCSS also immediately reported the breach to my office and after consultation efforts were initiated to discover the cause of the breach. After a thorough internal investigation we have identified the cause of the breach and have initiated affirmative steps to prevent a similar situation from arising in the future. One step involves staff training on the identification and segregation of improper and unnecessary documents received from another jurisdiction in UIFSA cases. Written notification of the security breach, in accordance with RSA 359-C: 20, was provided to the two (2) individuals by letter dated January 16, 2019.

The Department of Health and Human Services is committed to providing an environment that protects the privacy and security of information necessary to support our mission. Please be assured that we take the matter of privacy and security in the handling of personal information very seriously and maintain policies and procedures to protect the confidentiality of such information.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you would like further information regarding this matter or if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely, Catherine L. Bernhard

Privacy Officer NH Department of Health and Human Services 129 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301 (603) 271-9374

C: Frank Nachman, Esq.

The Department of Health and Human Services' Mission is to join communities and families in providing opportunities for citizens to achieve health and independence.