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#### SUBMITTED VIA EMAIL ONLY

Doj-cpb@doj.nh.gov Hon. John M. Formella Office of the Attorney General 33 Capitol Street Concord, New Hampshire 03301

November 10, 2021

**Re: Security Breach Notification** 

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing on behalf of our client, City College (located at 2000 W Commercial Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309), to notify you of a data security incident involving six (6) New Hampshire residents. City College is an educational network that educates and trains students across five campuses in Florida for employment in the fields of healthcare, business administration and law.

#### **Nature**

On August 16, 2021, City College discovered that it was the victim of a sophisticated ransomware incident. After discovering the incident, City College quickly took steps to secure and safely restore its systems and operations. Further, City College immediately engaged our firm and third-party forensic and incident response experts to conduct a thorough investigation of the incident's nature and scope and assist in the remediation efforts. City College concluded its technological restoration and investigation on October 28, 2021, but due to the actions of the unauthorized individual(s), it was unable to determine exactly how its systems were accessed.

Concurrently, City College began a comprehensive review of a significant amount of stored data to determine the types of protected information that was potentially exposed and identify individuals potentially impacted by the incident. City College concluded its initial review and determined that the incident potentially involved six (6) New Hampshire residents, and on November 3, 2021, City College located the most recent contact information for these individuals.

The personal information potentially impacted included names, social security numbers, dates of birth, and addresses. However, as of the date of this letter, City College has no evidence of misuse of any of the potentially impacted information.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> By providing this notice, City College does not waive any rights or defenses regarding the applicability of New Hampshire law, the applicability of the New Hampshire data event notification statute, or personal jurisdiction.

#### **Notice and City College's Response to the Event**

On November 11, 2021, City College will mail a written notification to the potentially affected New Hampshire residents, pursuant to N.H. Rev. State § 359-C:19, in a substantially similar form as the enclosed letter (attached as <u>Exhibit A</u>).

Additionally, City College is providing the potentially impacted individuals the following:

- Free access to credit monitoring services for one year through Sontiq;
- Guidance on ways to protect against identity theft and fraud, including steps to report any suspected activities or events of identity theft or fraud to their credit card company and/or bank;
- The appropriate contact information for the consumer reporting agencies along with information on how to obtain a free credit report and place a fraud alert and security freeze on their credit file;
- A reminder to remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing account statements and monitoring free credit reports; and
- Encouragement to contact the Federal Trade Commission and law enforcement to report attempted or actual identity theft and fraud.

Further, City College notified the three major credit reporting agencies and applicable government regulators, officials, and Attorneys General (as necessary). Finally, City College has implemented and continues to implement any necessary additional safeguards, including but not limited to:

- Implementing MFA across its enterprise;
- Minimizing access to sensitive records to only certain individuals;
- Employing Microsoft Advanced Threat Analytics;
- Putting in place audits for staff and end points using Microsoft Intune and Azure Activity directory;
- Enhancing security for mobile devices;
- Further employee training on cybersecurity best practices; and
- Reviewing and revising cybersecurity policies (as needed).

#### **Contact Information**

If you have any questions or wish to discuss this event further, please do not hesitate to call me on my direct dial (410) 832-8002 or email me at <a href="mailto:spollock@wtplaw.com">spollock@wtplaw.com</a>.

Sincerely Yours,

Spencer S. Pollock, Esq., CIPP/US, CIPM

# **EXHIBIT A**







November 11, 2021

Re: Notice of Data Breach

Dear

At City College, we value transparency and respect the privacy of your information, which is why, as a precautionary measure, we are writing to let you know about a data security incident that may involve your protected personal information, what we did in response, and steps you can take to protect yourself against possible misuse of the information.

## What Happened

On August 16, 2021, we discovered that we were the victim of a sophisticated ransomware incident. After discovering the incident, we quickly took steps to secure and safely restore our systems and operations. Further, we immediately engaged third-party forensic and incident response experts to conduct a thorough investigation of the incident's nature and scope and assist in the remediation efforts. On September 4, 2021, to the best of our ability and knowledge, we retrieved and confirmed deletion of the information that was obtained. We concluded our investigation on October 28, 2021, but due to the actions of the unauthorized individual(s), we were unable to determine exactly how our systems were accessed.

Concurrently, we began a comprehensive review of stored data to determine the types of protected information that may have been exposed and identify individuals potentially impacted by the incident. We concluded our initial review and determined that the impacted information could potentially include your protected personal information. However, as of now, we have no evidence indicating misuse of any of your information.

#### What Information Was Involved

The protected personal information could potentially include your name, social security number, date of birth, and/or address.

#### What We Are Doing

As explained above, we took immediate steps to secure our systems and engaged third-party forensic experts to assist in the investigation. Further, in response to this incident, we are implementing additional cybersecurity safeguards (as needed), enhancing our employee cybersecurity training, and improving our cybersecurity policies, procedures, and protocols to help minimize the likelihood of this type of incident occurring again.

#### What You Can Do

The security and privacy of the information contained within our systems is a top priority for us. Therefore, while we have no evidence indicating your information was misused, we strongly recommend that you remain vigilant, monitor and review all of your financial and account statements, and report any unusual activity to the institution that issued the record and law enforcement. In addition, please see "OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION" on the following pages for guidance on how to best protect your identity.

Additionally, we are providing you with access to Single Bureau Credit Monitoring\* services at no charge. These services provide you with alerts for twelve months from the date of enrollment when changes occur to your credit

file. This notification is sent to you the same day that the change or update takes place with the bureau. In addition, we are providing you with proactive fraud assistance to help with any questions that you might have or in the event that you become a victim of fraud. These services will be provided by Cyberscout through Identity Force, a company specializing in fraud assistance and remediation services.

To assist you with questions regarding this incident, representatives are available for 90 days from the date of this letter, between the hours of 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Eastern time, Monday through Friday. Please call the help line and supply the fraud specialist with your unique code listed below. To extend these services, enrollment in the monitoring services described below is required.

To enroll in Credit Monitoring\* services at no charge, please log on to and follow the instructions provided. When prompted please provide the following unique code to receive services:

In order for you to receive the monitoring services described above, you must enroll within 90 days from the date of this letter.

## **For More Information**

We sincerely regret this incident occurred and for any concern it may cause. We understand that you may have questions about it beyond what is covered in this letter. If you have additional questions, please call our toll-free response line at Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. (ET).

Sincerely yours,

Jerry Rozenberg President and CEO

<sup>\*</sup> Services marked with an "\*" require an internet connection and e-mail account and may not be available to minors under the age of 18 years of age. Please note that when signing up for monitoring services, you may be asked to verify personal information for your own protection to confirm your identity.

## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Obtain and Monitor Your Credit Report. We recommend that you obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies once every 12 months by visiting <a href="http://www.annualcreditreport.com">http://www.annualcreditreport.com</a>, 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 access the request form at <a href="https://www.annualcreditreport.com/requestReport/requestForm.action.">https://www.annualcreditreport.com/requestReport/requestForm.action.</a>. Alternatively, you can elect to purchase a copy of your credit report by contacting one of the three national credit reporting agencies. The three nationwide credit reporting agencies' contact information are provided below to request a copy of your credit report or general identified above inquiries.

Equifax (888) 766-0008	Experian (888) 397-3742	TransUnion (800) 680-7289
Atlanta, GA 30374	Allen, TX 75013	Fullerton, CA 92834
www.equifax.com	www.experian.com	www.transunion.com

Security Freeze (also known as a Credit Freeze). Following is general information about how to request a security freeze from the three credit reporting agencies. While we believe this information is accurate, you should contact each agency for the most accurate and up-to-date information. A security freeze prohibits a credit reporting agency from releasing any information from a consumer's credit report without written authorization. However, please be aware that placing a security freeze on your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prevent the timely approval of any requests you make for new loans, credit, mortgages, employment, housing, or other services. In addition, in some states, the agency cannot charge you to place, lift or remove a security freeze. There might be additional information required, and as such, to find out more information, please contact the three nationwide credit reporting agencies (contact information provided above).

<b>Equifax Security Freeze</b>
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348
https://www.equifax.com/pers

https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/

## Experian Security Freeze P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 www.experian.com/freeze

TransUnion
Security Freeze & Fraud Victim Assistance
Dept.
P.O. Box 6790

P.O. Box 6/90 Fullerton, CA 92834

https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze

Consider Placing a Fraud Alert on Your Credit Report. You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. An initial fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit file for at least twelve months. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you before establishing any accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies identified above. Additional information is available at https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts/

#### Remain Vigilant, Review Your Account Statements and Notify Law Enforcement of Suspicious Activity.

As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant by closely reviewing your account statements and credit reports. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, we strongly advise that you promptly notify the financial institution or company that maintains the account. Further, you should promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidence of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, including your state attorney general and the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). To file a complaint or to contact the FTC, you can (1) send a letter to the *Federal Trade Commission*, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580; (2) go to <u>IdentityTheft.gov/databreach</u>; or (3) call 1-877-ID-THEFT (877-438-4338). Complaints filed with the FTC will be added to the FTC's Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse, a database made available to law enforcement agencies.

<u>Take Advantage of Additional Free Resources on Identity Theft.</u> We recommend that you review the tips provided by the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Information website, a valuable resource with some helpful tips on how to protect your information. Additional information is available at <a href="https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/privacy-identity-online-security">https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/privacy-identity-online-security</a>. For more information, please visit <a href="https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/topics/privacy-identity-online-security">IdentityTheft.gov</a> or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (877-438-4338). In addition, a copy of Identity Theft — A Recovery

Plan, a comprehensive guide from the FTC to help you guard against and deal with identity theft, can be found on the FTC's website at https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf 0009 identitytheft a recovery plan.pdf.

District of Columbia Residents: You can obtain information from the FTC and the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia about steps to take to avoid identity theft. You can contact the D.C. Attorney General at: 441 4th Street, NW, Washington, DC 200001, 202-727-3400, www.oag.dc.gov. Iowa residents may also wish to contact the Office of the Attorney general on how to avoid identity theft by calling 515-281-5164 or by mailing a letter to the Attorney General at: Office of the Attorney General of Iowa, Hoover State Office Building, 1305 E. Walnut Street, Des Moines, IA 50319. Maryland residents may wish to review the information the Attorney General, who can be contacted at 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023, or visiting www.oag.state.md.us. Massachusetts residents: State law advises you that you have the right to obtain a police report. You also will not be charged for seeking a security freeze, as described above in this document. New Hampshire residents have the right to ask that the three nationwide credit reporting agencies place fraud alerts in their file (as described above) and or request a security freeze (as described above). To place or fraud alert on your file or request the security freeze, please contact three credit reporting agencies identified above. New Mexico residents, you have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in your credit file has been used against you, the right to know what is in your credit file, the right to ask for your credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the 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 credit. New York Residents: You may also contact the following state agencies for information regarding security breach response and identity theft prevention and protection information: New York Attorney General's Office Bureau of Internet and Technology, (212) 416-8433, https://ag.ny.gov/internet/resource-center and or NYS Department of State's Division of Consumer Protection, (800) 697-1220, https://www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection. North Carolina residents may wish to review the information provided by the North Carolina Attorney General at www.ncdoj.gov, or by contacting the Attorney General by calling 877-5-NO-SCAM (Toll-free within North Carolina) or by mailing a letter to the Attorney General at North Carolina Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699. Oregon Residents: State laws advise you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, as well as the Federal Trade Commission. You can contact the Oregon Attorney General at: Oregon Department of Justice, 1162 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-4096, (877) 877-9392, www.doj.state.or.us. **Rhode Island residents** have the right to obtain a police report (if one was filed. Alternatively, you can file a police report). Further, you can obtain information from the Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General about steps you can take to help prevent identity theft. You can contact the Rhode Island Attorney General at: 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, (401) 274-4400, www.riag.ri.gov. As noted above, you have the right to place a security freeze on your credit report at no charge, but note that consumer reporting agencies may charge fees for other services. West Virginia residents have the right to ask that the three nationwide credit reporting agencies place fraud alerts in their file (as described above) and or request a security freeze (as described above). To place or fraud alert on your file or request the security freeze, please contact three credit reporting agencies identified above.