## RECEIVED

# **BakerHostetler**

# OCT 2 4 2018

### **CONSUMER PROTECTION**

## Baker&Hostetler LLP

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October 23, 2018

Lynn Sessions direct dial: 713.646.1352 lsessions@bakerlaw.com

#### VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Attorney General Joseph Foster Office of the Attorney General 33 Capitol Street Concord, NH 03301

Re:

Incident Notification

Dear Sir or Madam:

We are writing on behalf of our client, Catawba Valley Medical Center ("CVMC"), regarding a recent incident involving three New Hampshire residents.

On August 24, 2018, CVMC determined an unauthorized person may have gained access to some employees' email accounts in July and August, 2018. CVMC immediately took steps to secure the email account and began an investigation, including hiring a leading computer forensic firm to assist. The investigation concluded that some New Hampshire residents' information may have been contained in those email accounts, and may have included their names, dates of birth, health information about services received at CVMC, health insurance information and Social Security numbers.

CVMC mailed letters in substantially the same form as the attached to the New Hampshire residents¹ on October 23, 2018, and has established a dedicated call center to answer any questions they may have. Additionally, CVMC is offering free credit monitoring and identity protection services to the affected individuals. To help prevent something like this from happening in the future, CVMC has hired security experts to enhance its employee education, implemented tighter email controls, and continues to upgrade its hardware and software platforms to combat malicious threats.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This report is not and does not constitute a waiver of CVMC's objection that the State of New Hampshire lacks personal jurisdiction over CVMC regarding any claim related to this incident.

Office of the Attorney General October 23, 2018 Page 2

Sincerely,

Lynn Sessions

Enclosure



Return Mail Processing Center P.O. Box 6336 Portland, OR 97228-6336

<<Mail ID>>

<<Name 1>>

<<Name 2>>

<<Address 1>>

<<Address 2>>

<<Address 3>>

<<Address 4>>

<<Address 5>>

<<City>>><<State>>><<Zip>>>

<<Country>>

<<Date>>

#### Dear << Name 1>>:

Catawba Valley Medical Center ("CVMC") is committed to protecting the security and confidentiality of our patients' information. Regrettably, I am writing to inform you of an incident that may have involved some of that information.

On August 24, 2018, we determined an unauthorized person may have gained access to some employees' email accounts in July and August, 2018. We immediately took steps to secure the email accounts and began an investigation including hiring a leading computer forensic firm to assist. The investigation that was completed last week concluded that some of your information may have been in those email accounts and may have included your name, date of birth, health information about services you received at CVMC, health insurance information, and your Social Security number.

We have no indication that your information has been misused in any way. However, out of an abundance of caution, we are offering you a complimentary one-year membership in 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. IdentityWorksSM Credit 3B is completely free to you and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score. For more information on IdentityWorksSM Credit 3B, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary one-year membership, as well as some additional steps you can take in response, please see the additional information provided with this letter. We also recommend you review the statements you receive from your health insurer. If you see services that you did not receive, please contact the insurer immediately.

We deeply regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause you. To help prevent something like this from happening in the future, we have hired security experts to enhance our employee education; we have implemented tighter e-mail controls; and we continue to upgrade our hardware and software platforms to combat these malicious threats.

If you have any questions, please call 877-214-4239, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

Sincerely,

Edward L. Beard, Jr.

President and Chief Executive Officer

Edward X. Beard. In.

### Activate IdentityWorks Credit 3B Now in Three Easy Steps

1. ENROLL by: << Enrollment Deadline>> (Your code will not work after this date.)

2. VISIT the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit

3. PROVIDE the Activation Code: << Enrollment 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 877-288-8057. Be prepared to provide engagement number << Engagement Number>> as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services by Experian.

# ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 12-MONTH EXPERIAN IDENTITY WORKS 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 Identity Works, 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<sup>TM</sup>: You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- \$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 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 877-288-8057.

<sup>\*</sup> Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling.

<sup>\*\*</sup> 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.

#### MORE INFORMATION ON WAYS TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Regardless of whether you take advantage of this free credit monitoring, we recommend that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing your account statements and free credit reports for any unauthorized activity. If you detect any unauthorized activity on your financial accounts, you should immediately contact your financial institution. 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 Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580, www.ftc.gov/idtheft, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338),

If you are a resident of Connecticut, Maryland, North Carolina, or Rhode Island, you may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at:

Connecticut Attorney General's Office, 55 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106 www.ct.gov/ag, 1-860-808-5318

Maryland Attorney General's Office, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202 www.oag.state.md.us, 1-888-743-0023 (toll free when calling within Maryland) 1-410-576-6300 (for calls originating outside Maryland)

North Carolina Attorney General's Office, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699, www.ncdoj.gov, 1-919-716-6400 or toll free at 1-877-566-7226

Rhode Island Attorney General's Office, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, www.riag.ri.gov, 401-274-4400

If you are a resident of Rhode Island, note that pursuant to Rhode Island law, you have the right to file and obtain a copy of any police report.

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 at least 90 days. 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 number 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 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 number 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.

Fair Credit Reporting Act: You also have rights under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, which promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. The FTC has published a list of the primary rights created by the FCRA (https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf-0096-fair-credit-reporting-act.pdf), and that article refers individuals seeking more information to visit www.ftc.gov/credit.

#### The FTC's list of FCRA rights includes:

• You have the right to receive a copy of your credit report. The copy of your report must contain all the information in your file at the time of your request.

Each of the nationwide credit reporting companies – Experian, TransUnion and Equifax – is required to

provide you with a free copy of your credit report, at your request, once every 12 months.

• You are also entitled to a free report if a company takes adverse action against you, like denying your application for credit, insurance, or employment, and you ask for your report within 60 days of receiving notice of the action. The notice will give you the name, address, and phone number of the credit reporting company. You're also entitled to one free report a year if you're unemployed and plan to look for a job within 60 days; if you're on welfare; or if your report is inaccurate because of fraud, including identity theft.

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. And 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 may seek damages from violators.

Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have additional rights.