

309 Fellowship Road, Suite 200 Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054

October 5, 2023

# VIA E-MAIL

Office of the New Hampshire Attorney General Consumer Protection & Antitrust Bureau 33 Capitol Street Concord, NH 03301

E-mail: DOJ-CPB@doj.nh.gov

**Re:** Notice of Data Event

To Whom It May Concern:

We represent Generational Equity LLC ("Generational") located at 3400 N. Central Expressway, Suite 100, Richardson, TX 75080, and are writing to notify your office of an incident that may affect the security of certain personal information relating to four (4) New Hampshire residents. This notice may be supplemented with any new significant facts learned subsequent to its submission. By providing this notice, Generational 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.

#### **Nature of the Data Event**

On or about February 16, 2023, Generational discovered encrypted files on certain computer systems in its network. Generational immediately launched an investigation, with the assistance of third-party forensic specialists, to determine the nature and scope of the activity. The investigation determined that there was unauthorized access to Generational's network between February 15, 2023 to February 16, 2023. Through the investigation, Generational learned that certain files within its network may have been accessed or taken during the period of unauthorized access. Generational then undertook a comprehensive review of these files to determine what data was contained within the files and to whom that data relates. On June 14, 2023, Generational determined that the impacted files contained certain information related to New Hampshire residents. Generational has seen no evidence of misuse of any information related to this incident.

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The information that could have been subject to unauthorized access includes

# **Notice to New Hampshire Residents**

On or about October 5, 2023, Generational provided written notice of this incident to four (4) New Hampshire residents. Written notice is being provided in substantially the same form as the letter attached here as *Exhibit A*.

# Other Steps Taken and To Be Taken

Upon discovering the event, Generational immediately moved to investigate and respond to the incident, assess the security of Generational systems, and identify potentially affected individuals. Further, Generational notified federal law enforcement regarding the event. Generational is also working to implement additional safeguards and training to its employees. Generational is providing access to credit monitoring services for two years through Epiq, to individuals whose personal information was potentially affected by this incident, at no cost to these individuals.

Additionally, Generational is providing impacted individuals with guidance on how to better protect against identity theft and fraud. Generational is providing individuals with information on how to place a fraud alert and security freeze on one's credit file, the contact details for the national consumer reporting agencies, information on how to obtain a free credit report, 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, their state Attorney General, and law enforcement to report attempted or actual identity theft and fraud.

Generational is providing written notice of this incident to relevant state regulators, as necessary, and to the three major credit reporting agencies, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion

#### **Contact Information**

Should you have any questions regarding this notification or other aspects of the data security event, please contact us at

Very truly yours,

Vincent F. Regan of MULLEN COUGHLIN LLC

VFR/cob Enclosure

# **EXHIBIT A**



<<Return Mail Address>>

<<Name 1>>
<<Name 2>>
<<Address 1>>
<<Address 2>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<City>>, <<State>> <<Country>>

</Variable Header>>

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

Generational Equity LLC ("Generational") writes to notify you of an incident that may affect the privacy of some of your information. We take this incident seriously. This letter provides details of the incident, our response, and steps you may take to better protect against possible misuse of your information, should you feel it appropriate to do so.

<<Date>>

What Happened? On or about February 16, 2023, Generational discovered encrypted files on certain computer systems in our network. We immediately launched an investigation, with the assistance of third-party forensic specialists, to determine the nature and scope of the activity. Our investigation determined that there was unauthorized access to our network between February 15, 2023 to February 16, 2023. Through our investigation, we learned that certain files within our network may have been accessed or taken during the period of unauthorized access. Generational then undertook a comprehensive review of these files to determine what data was contained within the files and to whom that data relates. On June 14, 2023, Generational determined that the impacted files contained certain information related to you. Generational has seen no evidence of misuse of any information related to this incident.

What Information Was Involved? Generational determined that the following information related to you was present on the impacted files:

What We Are Doing. Generational takes the confidentiality, privacy, and security of information in our care seriously. Upon discovery, we immediately commenced an investigation to confirm the nature and scope of the incident. We reported this incident to law enforcement, and we are taking steps to implement additional safeguards and review policies and procedures relating to data privacy and security.

Generational is providing you with access to of credit monitoring and identity protection services through Epiq at no cost to you. A description of services and instructions on how to enroll can be found within the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Personal Information*. Please note that you must complete the enrollment process yourself, as we are not permitted to enroll you in these services on your behalf.

What You Can Do. Generational encourages you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your account statements and monitoring free credit reports for suspicious activity and to detect errors. You can review the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Personal Information* for additional details on how to take steps to protect your information and enroll in complimentary credit monitoring, should you feel it is necessary to do so.

**For More Information.** We understand that you may have questions about this incident that are not addressed in this letter. To ensure your questions are answered in a timely manner, please call 855-457-8949, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time. Additionally, you can write to us at Generational Equity, LLC, Attention: Legal Services, 3400 N. Central Expressway, Suite 100, Richardson TX 75080.

Generational takes the privacy and security of the information in our care seriously. We sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause you.

Sincerely,

Jay Hellwig Chief Experience Officer Generational Equity LLC

#### STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION

#### **Enroll in Monitoring Services**

Go to www.equifax.com/activate. Enrollment Deadline: << Enrollment Deadline>>

Enter your unique Activation Code of << ACTIVATION CODE>> then click "Submit" and follow these 4 steps:

#### **Register:**

Complete the form with your contact information and click "Continue".

If you already have a myEquifax account, click the 'Sign in here' link under the "Let's get started" header. Once you have successfully signed in, you will skip to the Checkout Page in Step 4

# 1. Create Account:

Enter your email address, create a password, and accept the terms of use.

# 2. **Verify Identity:**

To enroll in your product, we will ask you to complete our identity verification process.

## 3. Checkout:

Upon successful verification of your identity, you will see the Checkout Page.

Click 'Sign Me Up' to finish enrolling.

# You're done!

The confirmation page shows your completed enrollment.

Click "View My Product" to access the product features.

## **Monitor Your Accounts**

Under U.S. law, a consumer is entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. To order a free credit report, visit <a href="www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a> or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. Consumers may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of their credit report.

Consumers have the right to place an initial or extended "fraud alert" on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is placed on a consumer's credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer's credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer's identity before extending new credit. If consumers are the victim of identity theft, they are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should consumers wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any of the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, consumers have the right to place a "credit freeze" on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without the consumer's express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in a consumer's name without consent. However, consumers should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in their credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application they make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, consumers cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on their credit report. To request a credit freeze, individuals may need to provide some or all of the following information:

- 1. Full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
- 2. Social Security number;
- 3. Date of birth:
- 4. Addresses for the prior two to 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, etc.); and
- 7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft if they are a victim of identity theft.

Should consumers wish to place a credit freeze or fraud alert, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-		https://www.transunion.com/credit-
report-services/	https://www.experian.com/help/	help
1-888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	1-800-916-8800
Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069	Experian Fraud Alert, P.O. Box	TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box
Atlanta, GA 30348-5069	9554, Allen, TX 75013	2000, Chester, PA 19016
Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 105788	Experian Credit Freeze, P.O.	TransUnion Credit Freeze, P.O.
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788	Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094

#### **Additional Information**

Consumers may further educate themselves regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps they can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or their state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; <a href="www.identitytheft.gov">www.identitytheft.gov</a>; 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. Consumers can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Consumers have the right to file a police report if they ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, consumers will likely need to provide some proof that they have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and the relevant state Attorney General. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

For Maryland residents, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at: 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-528-8662 or 1-888-743-0023; and https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/.

For New Mexico residents, consumers have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in their credit file has been used against them, the right to know what is in their credit file, the right to ask for their credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the consumer reporting bureaus must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to consumers' files is limited; consumers must give consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; consumers may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance based on information in their credit report; and consumers may seek damages from violators. Consumers may have additional rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act not summarized here. Identity theft victims and active-duty military personnel have specific additional rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage consumers to review their rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\_cfpb\_summary\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf, or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

For New York residents, the New York Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; or https://ag.ny.gov.

For North Carolina residents, the North Carolina Attorney General may be contacted at: 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; and www.ncdoj.gov.