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July 21, 2020

# VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL (DOJ-CPB@DOJ.NH.GOV)

Gordon MacDonald, Attorney General
Office of the Attorney General
Consumer Protection Bureau
33 Capitol Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

**Re:** Notification of Data Security Incident

**Our File No: 1211713** 

To Whom It May Concern:

As you are aware, this firm represents the interests of Healthcare Fiscal Management, Inc. ("HFMI") in connection with the above-referenced matter. Please allow this to serve as a supplement to the notification of data security incident previously filed by HFMI on June 26, 2020. HFMI is providing this supplemental notification of data security incident to you on behalf of Habersham Medical Center, located in Demorest, Georgia.

In connection with the data security incident referenced in the original notification, HFMI has provided notification to potentially impacted individuals on behalf of Habersham Medical Center, including one (1) New Hampshire resident, *via* written and substitute notice. The names of the individuals are A sample copy of the notification to the New Hampshire resident is attached. As noted in the attachment, HFMI has included in the notification an offer to provide twelve months of one-bureau credit monitoring services to the affected New Hampshire resident. HFMI has also provided notification of this data security incident to the Department of Health and Human Services/Office of Civil Rights on Habersham Medical Center's behalf in accordance with HIPAA.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,

GORDON REES SCULLY MANSUKHANI, LLP

/s/ Joseph Salvo

Joseph Salvo, Esq.

**Enclosures** 

#### HEALTHCARE FISCAL MANAGEMENT, INC.

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

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

Healthcare Fiscal Management, Inc. ("HFMI") specializes in providing self-pay conversion and Medicaid eligibility verification services for hospital systems, clinics and physician groups, other health-care providers and their communities, including Habersham Medical Center. At the request of the Habersham Medical Center, HFMI is sending you this notice to inform you that HFMI recently identified and addressed a security incident that may have involved your personal information and/or protected health information. HFMI and Habersham Medical Center understand the importance of protecting your personal information and protected health information. This notice describes the incident, outlines the measures that HFMI has taken in response, and advises you on steps you can take to further protect your information.

# What Happened?

On April 13, 2020, HFMI became aware of a data security incident, including ransomware, which impacted portions of our server infrastructure and took our systems offline. HFMI immediately undertook efforts to restore its servers to a new hosting provider. Backups and other information maintained by HFMI were used to enable near seamless restoration of security and services on the same day. HFMI thereafter retained a forensic investigation firm to determine the nature of the security compromise and identify any individuals whose personal information and/or protected health information may have been compromised.

# What Information Was Involved?

The forensic investigation determined that first access to HFMI's systems occurred on approximately April 12, 2020, with the ransomware launched on April 13, 2020. HFMI completed the forensic investigation and notified Habersham Medical Center of the data security incident on June 10, 2020. The data security incident may have resulted in unauthorized access to or acquisition of personal information, including names, date of birth and Social Security numbers, and protected health information, including medical record numbers, account numbers and dates of service that were provided to HFMI by Habersham Medical Center in connection with HFMI's provision of Medicaid eligibility services for Habersham Medical Center between in or about February 2020 through April 2020.

### What We Are Doing

As stated above, following the data security incident, HFMI immediately undertook efforts to restore the impacted servers to a new hosting provider. Backups and other information maintained by HFMI were used to enable near seamless restoration of security and services on the same day. HFMI has retained a forensic investigation firm to thoroughly investigate the incident and has confirmed that the information is no longer in possession of third party(ies) or accessible via the Internet. HFMI is providing this notice to you in accordance with applicable state law and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) requirements. Please be advised that HFMI is continuing to work closely with leading security experts to identify and implement measures to further strengthen the security of their systems to help prevent this from happening in the future.

Additionally, we are offering you a free <<12/24>>-month membership to TransUnion *my*TrueIdentity credit monitoring service. 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. This product also includes various features such as up to \$1,000,000 in identity theft insurance with no deductible, subject to policy limitations and exclusions. TransUnion *my*TrueIdentity is completely free to you and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score. For more information on identity theft protection and TransUnion *my*TrueIdentity, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary <<12/24>>-month membership, please see the additional information attached to this letter. *To take advantage of this offer, you must enroll by* <*Enrollment Deadline*>>.

#### What You Can Do

We are aware of how important your personal information and protected health information is to you. To protect yourself from potential harm associated with this incident, we encourage you to closely monitor all mail or other contact from individuals not known to you personally, and to avoid answering questions or providing additional information to such unknown individuals. We also ask that you report any such activity, or any suspicious contact whatsoever, to Habersham Medical Center and/or HFMI, as well as to law enforcement if warranted.

Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, we advise you that protected health information is defined as individually identifiable information transmitted or maintained in electronic media or any other form or medium, including demographic information collected from an individual, and relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health conditions, provision of health care, or payment for health care to an individual.

We also remind you to remain vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing account statements and credit reports for unauthorized activity. Residents of the United States are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting agencies. To order your free credit reports, visit www.annualcreditreport. com or call toll-free (877) 322-8228. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained. You should also promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidence of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, your state attorney general, and/or the Federal Trade Commission.

You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. 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 alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. A fraud alert does not impact your ability to get a loan or credit, but rather alerts a business that your personal information may have been compromised and requires the business to verify your identity before issuing you credit. Although this may cause some delay if you are applying for credit, it may protect against someone else obtaining credit in your name. 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. The agency that you contacted must notify the other two agencies.

Additionally, 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 access 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. However, unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a security freeze on your credit file at each of the three national credit reporting agencies.

Below are the toll-free numbers and addresses for the three largest credit reporting agencies:

Equifax P.O. Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374 1-800-685-1111 www.equifax.com Experian
P.O. Box 2002
Allen, TX 75013
1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com

TransUnion P.O. Box 1000 Chester, PA 19016 1-800-916-8800 www.transunion.com

# **Other Important Information**

Below is the toll-free number, address and website address for the Federal Trade Commission, which you may contact to obtain further information on how to protect yourself from identity theft and how to repair identity theft:

Federal Trade Commission Consumer Response Center 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338) www.ftc.gov/idtheft

For residents of Hawaii, Michigan, Missouri, Virginia, Vermont and North Carolina: It is recommended by state law that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity.

For residents of Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Oregon and West Virginia: It is required by state law to inform you that you may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report using the contact information listed above.

For residents of Iowa: State law advises you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or the Attorney General.

For residents of Oregon: State laws advise you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, including the Attorney General, and the Federal Trade Commission.

For residents of Maryland, Rhode Island, Illinois and North Carolina: You can obtain information from the Maryland and North Carolina Offices of the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft.

Maryland Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection Division 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202 1-888-743-0023 marylandattorneygeneral.gov

Office of the Illinois Attorney General Identity Theft Hotline 100 W Randolph St, Fl. 12 Chicago, IL 60601 1-866-999-5630 www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection 150 South Main Street Providence, RI 02903 1-401-274-4400 www.riag.ri.gov

North Carolina Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection Division 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-9001 1-877-566-7226 www.ncdoj.gov

For residents of Massachusetts and Rhode Island: It is required by state law that you are informed of your right to obtain a police report if you are a victim of identity theft.

For residents of Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and West Virginia: You also have the right to place a security freeze on your credit report by contacting any of the credit bureaus listed above.

# **For More Information**

HFMI and Habersham Medical Center understand the importance of protecting your personal information, and deeply regret any concern this may have caused to you. HFMI remains committed to protecting your personal information and personal health information. Should you have any questions and would like further information regarding the information contained in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact (855) 917-3550 between the hours of 9:00am to 9:00pm EST, Monday through Friday. In the event that the call-in center is unable to assist with your questions, we invite you to contact Habersham Medical Center directly at (706) 839-4000, ext. 1152, or HFMI directly at (877) 353-1187.

Sincerely,

Jack Guggisberg

Owner, Healthcare Fiscal Management, Inc.



# Complimentary <<12/24>>-Month myTrueIdentity Credit Monitoring Service

As a safeguard, we have arranged for you to enroll, <u>at no cost to you</u>, in an online credit monitoring service (*my*TrueIdentity) for <<12/24>> months provided by TransUnion Interactive, a subsidiary of TransUnion,® one of the three nationwide credit reporting companies.

#### How to Enroll: You can sign up online or via U.S. mail delivery.

- To enroll in this service, go to the *my*TrueIdentity website at <u>www.MyTrueIdentity.com</u> and, in the space referenced as "Enter Activation Code," enter the 12-letter Activation Code <<12-letter Activation Code>> and follow the three steps to receive your credit monitoring service online within minutes.
- If you do not have access to the Internet and wish to enroll in a similar offline, paper-based credit monitoring service, via U.S. mail delivery, please call the TransUnion Fraud Response Services toll-free hotline at 1-855-288-5422. When prompted, enter the six-digit telephone passcode <<6-digit Pass Code>> and follow the steps to enroll in the offline credit monitoring service, add an initial fraud alert to your credit file, or to speak to a TransUnion representative if you believe you may be a victim of identity theft.

You can sign up for the online or offline credit monitoring service anytime between now and **<<Enrollment Deadline>>**. Due to privacy laws, we cannot register you directly. Please note that credit monitoring services might not be available for individuals who do not have a credit file with TransUnion or an address in the United States (or its territories) and a valid Social Security number. Enrolling in this service will not affect your credit score.

# ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR <<12/24>>-MONTH COMPLIMENTARY CREDIT MONITORING SERVICE:

- Once you are enrolled, you will be able to obtain <<12/24>> months of unlimited access to your TransUnion credit report and credit score.
- The daily credit monitoring service will notify you if there are any critical changes to your credit file at TransUnion, including fraud alerts, new inquiries, new accounts, new public records, late payments, changes of address, and more.
- The service also includes access to an identity restoration program that provides assistance in the event that your identity is compromised and up to \$1,000,000 in identity theft insurance with no deductible. (Policy limitations and exclusions may apply.)