

1421 W. Shure Drive, Suite 100 Arlington Heights, IL 60004

November 23, 2018



VIA On Line

Office of the Attorney General Attn: Security Breach Notification 33 Capitol Street Concord NH 03301

RE: Notification of Data Security Breach Incident

# Dear Attorney General:

We are writing to provide you with written notification regarding the nature and circumstances of a breach of customer data that occurred at HSBC Bank USA, National Association ("HSBC").

Between October 29, 2018 and November 2, 2018 we became aware that online accounts were being accessed by unauthorized users. On November 13, 2018 we determined that four New Hampshire residents were impacted. We suspended online access to the accounts as soon as they were identified. The customer information that may have been accessible online included full name, mailing address, phone number, email address, date of birth, account numbers, account types, account balances, transaction history, payee account information and statement history where available.

On November 1, 2018 we enhanced the authentication process for HSBC Personal Internet Banking by adding an additional layer of security that requires the customer to take action on a One Time Passcode sent to their device.

HSBC takes this very seriously and deeply regrets that this incident occurred. HSBC will notify the impacted New Hampshire residents by November 26, 2018 with a letter explaining the incident. HSBC is offering a complimentary one-year subscription to Identity Guard®, a credit monitoring and identity theft protection service. This program is provided by Intersections Inc., a leading global provider of consumer and corporate identity risk management services. It provides essential monitoring and protection of not only credit data, but it also monitors internet chat rooms and newsgroups, and alerts customers if their social security number, credit cards and bank account numbers are found in unsecure online locations. A copy of the customer notice template is enclosed.

If any further information is required pertaining to this notice, please contact me directly at (224) 568-4574 or by mail to the address listed above.

Sincerely Yours,

Phyllis Johnston Senior Vice President Regulatory Compliance

**Enclosure (Customer Notice)** 

Hughli John K

<u>Confidential Treatment Requested</u>. The information provided in and with this document is confidential and proprietary information of Licensee and its affiliates. Licensee expects that all information provided shall be safeguarded and protected against any unauthorized access or disclosure. Non-personal information of individual consumers may be included and should be treated in accordance with all applicable state and federal laws, including but not limited to Title V of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act of 1999 and its implementing regulations.



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< <first name="">&gt; &lt;&lt; Middle Name&gt;&gt; &lt;<last name="">&gt; &lt;<address 1="">&gt; &lt;<address 2="">&gt; &lt;<address 3="">&gt; &lt;<city>&gt;, &lt;<state>&gt; &lt;<zip>&gt;&gt;&lt;4 Digit Zip&gt;&gt;</zip></state></city></address></address></address></last></first>		Date: November 23, 2018
Notice of Data Breach		
What Happened?	HSBC became aware of online accounts being accessed by unauthorized users between October 29, 2018 – November 2, 2018. When HSBC discovered your online account was impacted, we suspended online access to prevent further unauthorized entry of your account. You may have received a call or email from us so we could help you change your online banking credentials and access your account. If you need help accessing your account, please call < <field_47>&gt;.  We apologize for this inconvenience. HSBC takes this very seriously and the security of your information is very important to us.</field_47>	
What Information Was Involved?	The information that may have been accessed includes your full name, mailing address, phone number, email address, date of birth, account numbers, account types, account balances, transaction history, payee account information, and statement history where available.	
What We Are Doing.	We have enhanced our authentication process for HSBC Personal Internet Banking, adding an extra layer of security.  Out of an abundance of caution and at our expense, HSBC is offering you a complimentary < <field_43>&gt;-year subscription to Identity Guard®, a credit monitoring and identity theft protection service. Identity Guard not only provides essential monitoring and protection of credit data, but also alerts you to certain activities that could indicate potential identity theft. This program is provided by Intersections Inc. (NASDAQ: INTX), a leading provider of consumer and corporate identity risk management services. If you wish to take advantage of this monitoring service, you must enroll within 90 days. SEE "IDENTITY GUARD ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE" INSTRUCTIONS BELOW</field_43>	
What You Can Do.	<ol> <li>Monitor Transactions: Monitor your account transactions for any unauthorized activity and contact us immediately if any is noticed.</li> <li>Place a Fraud Alert: Place a fraud alert on your credit file, which tells creditors to contact you before they open any new accounts or change your</li> </ol>	

existing accounts. Call any one of the three major Credit Bureaus. As soon as one Credit Bureau confirms your fraud alert, the others are notified to place fraud alerts as well. All three credit reports will be sent to you, free of charge, for your review.

- Experian at 1-888-397-3742 or www.experian.com/consumer
- Equifax at 1-800-525-6285 or www.equifax.com
- Trans Union at 1-800-680-7289 or www.transunion.com
- 3. Obtain Credit Reports: Even if you do not find any suspicious activity on your initial credit reports, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends that you periodically obtain and review your credit reports for any information relating to fraudulent transactions to help you spot problems and address them quickly. Victim information sometimes is held for use or shared among a group of thieves at different times. You should remain vigilant over the next 12 to 24 months and promptly report any incidents of identity theft to HSBC and the Credit Bureaus.
- 4. File Reports: If you find suspicious activity on your credit reports or have reason to believe your information is being misused, call or contact your local law enforcement and file a police report. Get a copy of the police report; many creditors want the information it contains to absolve you of the fraudulent debts. Also, file a complaint with the FTC at <a href="www.ftc.gov/idtheft">www.ftc.gov/idtheft</a> or 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338). Your complaint will be added to the FTC's Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse, where it will be accessible to law enforcers for their investigations. If you do not have Internet access, call the FTC's Identity Theft Hotline, toll-free: 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); TTY: 1-866-653-4261; or write: Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580.

## **IDENTITY GUARD ENROLLMENT PROCEDURE:**

# IDENTITY GUARD® features include:

- 3-Bureau Credit Report and Scores\*
- 3-Bureau Daily Monitoring with NOTIFY EXPRESS® Alerts
- 3-Bureau Quarterly Credit Update
- Victim Assistance
- Credit Education Specialists
- Up to \$20,000 identity theft insurance with \$0 deductible\*\*

To activate this coverage please call the toll-free number or visit the website listed below and enter the redemption code. The redemption code is required for enrollment, and can only be used one time by the individual addressed.

Toll-Free:

<<Field 44>>

Website:

www.identityguard.com/enroll \*\*\*

Redemption Code: <<ITAC Code>>

In order to enroll, you will need to provide the following personal information:

Mailing Address

Date of Birth

Phone Number

Email Address

Social Security Number

Redemption Code

This service is complimentary; no method of payment will be collected during enrollment and there is no need to cancel. We apologize for any inconvenience and urge you to enroll today.

# Other Important Information

For Maryland, North Carolina and Rhode Island Residents – From the Credit Bureaus listed in the "What You Can Do" section, you can obtain information about identity theft and steps you can take to protect yourself, and you can find information on Credit Bureau fees. You can also call or mail inquiries or questions to:

## Maryland:

Attorney General of Maryland, Identity Theft Unit at 1-888-743-0023 / TDD 1-410-576-6372

Maryland Attorney General – ID Theft Unit 200 St. Paul Place – 16th Floor Baltimore, MD 21202

#### North Carolina:

Attorney General Office at 1-919-716-6400 Fax: 1-919-716-6750

Attorney General's Office 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-9001

#### Rhode Island:

Office of Attorney General 1-401-274-4400

Office of the Attorney General 150 South Main Street Providence, Rhode Island 02903

# For More Information.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call <<Field\_47>>. Visit <a href="https://www.us.hsbc.com/1/2/home/site/security/protect-you">https://www.us.hsbc.com/1/2/home/site/security/protect-you</a> for more information about protecting your data from traud and identity theft.

## Sincerely,

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\*The scores you receive with Identity Guard® are provided for educational purposes to help you understand your credit. They are calculated using the information contained in your Equifax, Experian and TransUnion credit files. Lenders use many different credit scoring systems, and the scores you receive with Identity Guard are not the same scores used by lenders to evaluate your credit.

Credit scores are provided by CreditXpert® based on data from the three major Credit Bureaus.

\*\*Identity Theft Insurance underwritten by insurance company subsidiaries or affiliates of American International Group, Inc. 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 may not be available in all jurisdictions.

\*\*\*If you are not able to enroll online, please call the toll-free number <<Field\_44>>.