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April 28, 2022

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# VIA E-MAIL (ATTORNEYGENERAL@DOJ.NH.GOV)

The Honorable John Formella Attorney General of the State of New Hampshire Office of the Attorney General 33 Capitol Street Concord, New Hampshire 03301

### Re: Notification of a Potential Data Security Incident

Dear Attorney General Formella:

We represent Valley View Hospital Association ("Valley View"), 1906 Blake Avenue, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601, in connection with a recent incident that may have affected the personal information of six (6) New Hampshire residents and are reporting a potential data security incident pursuant to N.H. REV. STAT. ANN. § 359-C:20. This notice will be supplemented, if necessary, with any new significant facts discovered subsequent to its submission. While Valley View is notifying you of this incident, Valley View does not waive any rights or defenses relating to the incident or this notice, or the applicability of New Hampshire law on personal jurisdiction.

### NATURE OF THE SECURITY BREACH OR UNAUTHORIZED USE OR ACCESS

On January 19, 2022, Valley View learned that an unauthorized party gained access to four of its employees' email accounts. Valley View is not aware of any fraud or identity theft as a result of this incident and does not believe that any personal information was removed from its system. Valley View investigated this matter and reviewed the contents of the email accounts.

On March 29, 2022, Valley View determined that the accounts contained personal information. The information varied depending on the individual, but could have included the individual's name, date of birth, and/or limited medical information.

#### NUMBER OF NEW HAMPSHIRE RESIDENTS AFFECTED

Valley View determined that the incident potentially impacted the personal information of six (6) New Hampshire residents. Valley View is notifying potentially affected individuals via letters sent

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by first-class United States mail today, April 28, 2022. Valley View has established a confidential telephone inquiry line to assist the affected individuals with any questions they may have regarding the incident. Enclosed is a sample of the notice that is being sent to the involved individuals via first-class United States mail.

### STEPS TAKEN RELATING TO THE INCIDENT

Upon learning of the incident, Valley View promptly launched an internal investigation and took steps to secure its email accounts and systems. Valley View also engaged a third-party forensic security firm to further investigate the incident and confirm the security of its email and computer systems. Valley View is undertaking efforts to reduce the risk of a similar incident occurring in the future. Finally, as discussed above, Valley View is notifying the potentially involved individuals and providing them with information on how they can protect themselves against fraudulent activity and identity theft.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if I can provide you with any further information concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

I'm Steenby

Pasha Sternberg

Enclosure

Valley View Hospital Association Mail Handling Services 777 E Park Dr Harrisburg, PA 17111

April 28, 2022

|      | A-1                   |
|------|-----------------------|
|      |                       |
| RE:  | NOTICE OF DATA BREACH |
| Dear |                       |



Valley View Hospital Association values and respects the privacy and confidentiality of your information. Unfortunately, we are writing to advise you of a recent incident that may have involved some of your personal information. We are not aware of any instances of fraud or identity theft that have occurred as a result of this incident. This letter provides some additional information about the incident and steps you can take to protect yourself from the misuse of your information.

**What Happened?** On January 19, 2022, we discovered that an unauthorized party gained access to four of our employees' email accounts that could have contained some of your personal information. Upon learning of the incident, we promptly secured the email accounts to prevent any further unauthorized access. We also engaged a forensic security firm to investigate the incident and confirm the security of our email and computer systems. We do not believe that any personal information was removed from our system. Consistent with our commitment to keep your personal information private, we investigated this matter and reviewed the contents of the email accounts. On March 29, 2022, we determined that the accounts contained personal information.

What Information Was Involved? The information involved varies by individual, but may have included your name, and limited medical information.

What We Are Doing. In addition to conducting an investigation into how the incident occurred, we are taking steps to reduce the risk of this type of incident occurring in the future, including implementing additional email controls.

What You Can Do. You can find more information on steps to protect yourself against identity theft or fraud, including the tips provided by the FTC on fraud alerts, security and credit freezes, and steps you can take to avoid identity theft in the enclosed *Additional Important Information* sheet.

**For More Information.** We take our responsibility to safeguard your personal information seriously and we apologize for any inconvenience this incident may cause you. For further information and assistance, please call 1-877-660-1330 from 7 a.m. – 4 p.m. Mountain, Monday through Friday.

Sincerely,

Valley View Hospital Association

#### ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant to protect against potential fraud and/or identity theft by, among other things, reviewing your account statements and monitoring credit reports closely. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained.

**Other Important Information:** You should also promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidents of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, including the police and your state's attorney general, as well as the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC").

You may wish to review the tips provided by the FTC on fraud alerts, security/credit freezes and steps you can take to avoid identity theft. For more information and to contact the FTC, please visit www.ftc.gov/idtheft or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338). You may also contact the FTC at Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580.

Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. If you are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of it.

The District of Columbia and Massachusetts law also allow consumers to place a security freeze on their credit reports. A security freeze can be placed without any charge. 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.

To place a security freeze on your credit report, you must send a written request to each of the three major consumer reporting agencies by regular, certified or overnight mail at the addresses below or, if available, comply with the consumer reporting agencies' online security freeze request procedures:

| Equifax Security Freeze | Experian Security Freeze | Trans Union Security Freeze |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1-888-298-0045          | 1-888-397-3742           | 1-888-909-8872              |
| www.equifax.com         | www.experian.com         | www.transunion.com          |
| P.O. Box 105788         | P.O. Box 9554            | P.O. Box 160                |
| Atlanta, GA 30348       | Allen, TX 75013          | Woodlyn, PA 19094           |

In order to request a security freeze, you may 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 (5) 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.); and

7. If you are a victim of identity theft, include a copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft.

The credit reporting agencies have three (3) business days after receiving your request to place a security freeze on your credit report. The credit bureaus must also send written confirmation to you within five (5) 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, you must call or send a written request to the credit reporting agencies by mail or, if available, comply with the consumer reporting agencies' online procedures for lifting a security freeze, 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 identities 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 three (3) business days after receiving your request to lift the security freeze for those identified entities or for the specified period of time.

To remove the security freeze, you must send a written request to each of the three credit bureaus by mail or, if available, comply with the consumer reporting agencies' online procedures for removing a security freeze, 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 three (3) business days after receiving your request to remove the security freeze.

<u>Credit Reports</u>: You may obtain a free copy of your credit report once every 12 months from each of the three national credit reporting agencies by visiting www.annualcreditreport.com, by calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, 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 print a copy of the request form at https://www.annualcreditreport.com/manualRequestForm.action.

Alternatively, you may elect to purchase a copy of your credit report by contacting one of the three national credit reporting agencies. Contact information for the three national credit reporting agencies for the purpose of requesting a copy of your credit report or for general inquiries is as follows:

| Equifax           | Experian         | TransUnion         |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| 1-866-349-5191    | 1-888-397-3742   | 1-800-888-4213     |
| www.equifax.com   | www.experian.com | www.transunion.com |
| P.O. Box 740241   | P.O. Box 2002    | P.O. Box 2000      |
| Atlanta, GA 30374 | Allen, TX 75013  | Chester, PA 19016  |

**Fraud Alerts:** You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. A fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit report for one (1) year. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any new accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three national credit reporting agencies using the contact information listed above. Additional information is available at <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u>.

<u>Credit and Security Freezes</u>: You may have the right to place a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, 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 the freeze. A credit freeze is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a credit 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 credit freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a credit freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. Since the instructions for how to establish a credit freeze differ from state to state, please contact the three major credit reporting companies as specified below to find out more information:

Equifax Security Freeze 1-888-298-0045 www.equifax.com P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348

Experian Security Freeze 1-888-397-3742 www.experian.com P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 TransUnion Security Freeze 1-888-909-8872 www.transunion.com P.O. Box 160 Woodlyn, PA 19094 Individuals interacting with credit reporting agencies have rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage you to review your rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting <u>https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/documents/bcfp\_consumer-rights-summary\_2018-09.pdf</u>, or by requesting information in writing from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

This notice was not delayed by a law enforcement investigation.

**District of Columbia Residents**: District of Columbia residents can contact the Office of the Attorney general to obtain information about steps to take to avoid identity theft from the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia at 441 4th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001, 202-727-3400, oag@dc.gov, https://oag.dc.gov/. The District of Columbia law also allows consumers to place a security freeze on their credit reports without any charge.

<u>Iowa Residents</u>: Iowa residents can contact the Office of the Attorney general to obtain information about steps to take to avoid identity theft from the Iowa Attorney General's office at: Office of the Attorney General of Iowa, Hoover State Office Building, 1305 E. Walnut Street, Des Moines IA 50319, 515-281-5164.

<u>Maryland Residents</u>: Maryland residents can contact the Office of the Attorney General to obtain information about steps you can take to avoid identity theft from the Maryland Attorney General's office at: Office of the Attorney General, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, (888) 743-0023, <u>http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/</u>.

<u>New York State Residents</u>: New York residents can obtain information about preventing identity theft from the New York Attorney General's Office at: Office of the Attorney General for the State of New York, Bureau of Consumer Frauds & Protection, The Capitol, Albany, New York 12224-0341; <u>https://ag.ny.gov/consumer-frauds/identity-theft</u>; (800) 771-7755.

<u>North Carolina Residents</u>: North Carolina residents can obtain information about preventing identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office at: North Carolina Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 877-5-NO-SCAM (Toll-free within North Carolina); 919-716-6000; <u>www.ncdoj.gov</u>.

**<u>Rhode Island Residents</u>**: We believe that this incident affected 2 Rhode Island residents. Rhode Island residents can contact the Office of the Attorney general at: Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, (401) 274-4400, <u>www.riag.ri.gov</u>. You have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. If you are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of it.

<u>Vermont Residents</u>: If you do not have internet access but would like to learn more about how to place a security freeze on your credit report, contact the Vermont Attorney General's Office at 802-656-3183 (800-649-2424 toll free in Vermont only).