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AUG 23 2021



CONSUMER PROTECTION

SpencerFane

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August 13, 2021

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

via Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested

**Re: Notification of Data Security Incident**

Dear Attorney General John Formella:

Be advised that the undersigned and this law firm have been retained to represent Braverman CPA, PC in connection with the recent data security incident described below.


On October 22, 2020, Braverman CPA, PC ("Braverman") discovered a a compromised Braverman email account during an incident which may have begun on approximately July 13, 2020. Upon analyzing the contents of the email account, Braverman learned on June 25, 2021, that the personal information of some of its clients was included in the compromised email account.

The compromised email account may have contained sensitive information such as names, Social Security numbers, and bank account or payment card information.

Braverman is offering affected individuals identity theft protection services through IDX the data breach and recovery services expert. The IDX identity protection services include: 12 months of credit and CyberScan monitoring, a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed ID theft recovery services.

Braverman mailed notification letters to the 4 affected New Hampshire residents on August 6, 2021. A sample copy of the notice each New Hampshire resident will receive is enclosed.

Respectfully,  
Spencer Fane, LLP

By:   
Shawn E. Tuma, Partner

Enclosure: Notice of Data Breach



Return to IDX  
P.O. Box 1907  
Suwanee, GA 30024

To Enroll, Please Call:  
1-833-909-3937  
Or Visit:  
<https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect>  
Enrollment Code: <<XXXXXX>>

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>  
<<Address1>> <<Address2>>  
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

August 6, 2021

### Notice of Data Breach

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>,

#### What Happened

We are writing to inform you of an incident that involved your personal information. On October 22, 2020, we learned of an incident involving a compromised Braverman CPA email account. After undertaking a lengthy investigation to understand the scope of the incident, we learned on June 25, 2021, that your personal information was included in the compromised email account; and therefore, could have been accessed or acquired.

#### What Information Was Involved

The compromised email account contained information such as names, Social Security numbers, and bank account or payment card information. We deeply regret that this has occurred and apologize for any inconvenience or concern caused by this incident.

#### What We Are Doing

We have improved the data security and the security of our email system. In addition, we are offering identity theft protection services through IDX, the data breach and recovery services expert. IDX identity protection services include: <<12/24 months>> of credit and CyberScan monitoring, a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed ID theft recovery services. With this protection, IDX will help you resolve issues if your identity is compromised.

#### What You Can Do

Although we are unable to conclusively rule out the possibility that your personal information was accessed or acquired as a result of this incident, the events that have occurred do not automatically mean that you are a victim of identity theft. However, we encourage you to remain vigilant; to continually review your credit report, bank account activity, and bank statements for irregularities or unauthorized items; and to immediately report any unauthorized charges to your financial institution.

We also encourage you to contact IDX with any questions and to enroll in free identity protection services by calling 1-833-909-3937 or going to <https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect> and using the Enrollment Code provided above. IDX representatives are available Monday through Friday from 9 am - 9 pm Eastern Time. Please note the deadline to enroll is November 6, 2021.

We encourage you to take full advantage of this service offering. IDX representatives have been fully versed on the incident and can answer questions or concerns you may have regarding protection of your personal information.

### **For More Information**

You will find detailed instructions for enrollment on the enclosed Recommended Steps document. Also, you will need to reference the enrollment code at the top of this letter when calling or enrolling online, so please do not discard this letter.

We value your privacy and sincerely regret any inconvenience this matter may cause. Our relationship with you, your confidence in our ability to safeguard your personal information, and your peace of mind are very important to us.

Please contact IDX at 1-833-909-3937 if you have additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Alan Braverman  
President  
Braverman CPA PC  
(Enclosure)

## Recommended Steps to help Protect your Information

- 1. Website and Enrollment.** Go to <https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect> and follow the instructions for enrollment using your Enrollment Code provided at the top of the letter.
- 2. Activate the credit monitoring** provided as part of your IDX identity protection membership. The monitoring included in the membership must be activated to be effective. Note: You must have established credit and access to a computer and the internet to use this service. If you need assistance, IDX will be able to assist you.
- 3. Telephone.** Contact IDX at 1-833-909-3937 to gain additional information about this event and speak with knowledgeable representatives about the appropriate steps to take to protect your credit identity.
- 4. Review your credit reports.** We recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring credit reports. Under federal law, you also are entitled every 12 months to one free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting companies. To obtain a free annual credit report, go to [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call 1-877-322-8228. You may wish to stagger your requests so that you receive a free report by one of the three credit bureaus every four months.

If you discover any suspicious items and have enrolled in IDX identity protection, notify them immediately by calling or by logging into the IDX website and filing a request for help.

If you file a request for help or report suspicious activity, you will be contacted by a member of our ID Care team who will help you determine the cause of the suspicious items. In the unlikely event that you fall victim to identity theft as a consequence of this incident, you will be assigned an ID Care Specialist who will work on your behalf to identify, stop and reverse the damage quickly.

You should also know that you have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity fraud. Please note that in order to file a crime report or incident report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some kind of proof that you have been a victim. A police report is often required to dispute fraudulent items. You can report suspected incidents of identity theft to local law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

**5. Place Fraud Alerts** with the three credit bureaus. If you choose to place a fraud alert, we recommend you do this after activating your credit monitoring. You can place a fraud alert at one of the three major credit bureaus by phone and also via Experian's or Equifax's website. A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you, before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit. The contact information for all three bureaus is as follows:

### Credit Bureaus

Equifax Fraud Reporting  
1-866-349-5191  
P.O. Box 105069  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5069  
[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)

Experian Fraud Reporting  
1-888-397-3742  
P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
[www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)

TransUnion Fraud Reporting  
1-800-680-7289  
P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19022-2000  
[www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)

It is necessary to contact only ONE of these bureaus and use only ONE of these methods. As soon as one of the three bureaus confirms your fraud alert, the others are notified to place alerts on their records as well. You will receive confirmation letters in the mail and will then be able to order all three credit reports, free of charge, for your review. An initial fraud alert will last for one year.

**Please Note: No one is allowed to place a fraud alert on your credit report except you.**

**6. Security Freeze.** By placing a security freeze, someone who fraudulently acquires your personal identifying information will not be able to use that information to open new accounts or borrow money in your name. You will need to contact the three national credit reporting bureaus listed above to place the freeze. Keep in mind that when you place the freeze, you will not be able to borrow money, obtain instant credit, or get a new credit card until you temporarily lift or permanently remove the freeze. There is no cost to freeze or unfreeze your credit files.

**7. You can obtain additional information** about the steps you can take to avoid identity theft from the following agencies. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them.

**California Residents:** Visit the California Office of Privacy Protection ([www.oag.ca.gov/privacy](http://www.oag.ca.gov/privacy)) for additional information on protection against identity theft.

**Kentucky Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of Kentucky, 700 Capitol Avenue, Suite 118 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601, [www.ag.ky.gov](http://www.ag.ky.gov), Telephone: 1-502-696-5300.

**Maryland Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, Consumer Protection Division 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202, [www.oag.state.md.us/Consumer](http://www.oag.state.md.us/Consumer), Telephone: 1-888-743-0023.

**New Mexico Residents:** You have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in your credit file has been used against you, the right to know what is in your credit file, the right to ask for your credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the 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; you must give your consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; you may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report; and you may seek damages from a violator. You 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. You can review your rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting [www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\\_cfpb\\_summary\\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf](http://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.

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

**North Carolina Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of North Carolina, 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov), Telephone: 1-919-716-6400.

**Oregon Residents:** Oregon Department of Justice, 1162 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-4096, [www.doj.state.or.us/](http://www.doj.state.or.us/), Telephone: 877-877-9392

**Rhode Island Residents:** Office of the Attorney General, 150 South Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, [www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov), Telephone: 401-274-4400

**All US Residents:** Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580, [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft), 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), TTY: 1-866-653-4261.