

KNYCH & WHRITENOUR, LLC

PETER W. KNYCH
*email: pk@pknynchlaw.com

ATTORNEYS & COUNSELORS AT LAW
One Park Place, Suite 404
300 South State Street
Syracuse, New York 13202
(315) 472-1175
*FAX (315) 234-4119

MATTHEW E. WHRITENOUR
*e-mail: mew@knychwhritenourlaw.com

*Not For Service Of Papers Or Process

March 8, 2021

New Hampshire Department of Justice
Office of the Attorney General
Consumer Protection Bureau
DOJ-CPB@doj.nh.gov

RE: Request to File Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear Sir or Madam:

Knych & Whritenour, LLC recently learned of unusual activity related to two of our firm email accounts. Upon learning of the suspicious activity, we immediately took steps to secure the email accounts and began working with a third-party computer forensic investigation firm to determine the nature and scope of the event. The investigation confirmed that two email accounts were accessed by an unknown actor between December 4, 2020 and December 8, 2020.

The investigation was unable to determine what emails, if any, were accessed by the unauthorized actor. In an abundance of caution, we worked with third-party specialists to perform a comprehensive review of all information stored in the email account at the time of unauthorized access to confirm the identities of the individuals whose information may have been accessible to the unauthorized actor. We then conducted a thorough manual review of our records to determine the identities and contact information for potentially impacted individuals. On or around February 1, 2021, we completed our internal review and confirmed contact information for potentially affected individuals.

We determined the following type of information was present in an impacted email account and accessible to the unknown actor during this incident: The [REDACTED] [REDACTED] a resident of New Hampshire. We obtained this information from an insurer of [REDACTED] as part of work we were doing [REDACTED]

Upon learning of this incident, we immediately took steps to secure the affected email account. As part of our ongoing commitment to the privacy of personal information in our care, we reviewed our existing policies and procedures and implemented additional safeguards to further secure the information in our systems. We also notified state regulators, as required.

██████████ has been notified of this incident. I have enclosed a copy of ██████████ notification letter. Please file this notification of a data security incident with the New Hampshire Consumer Protection Bureau as required.

If you have additional questions, please call Peter W. Knych, Monday through Friday, during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time. You may write or call:

Knych & Whritenour, LLC
ATTN: Peter W. Knych, Esq.
One Park Place
Suite 404
300 South State Street
Syracuse, New York 13202
(315) 472-1175
Email: PK@pknychlaw.com

Very truly yours,

By: *Peter W. Knych* /vw
Peter W. Knych, Esq.

PWK/vw
Enclosure

KNYCH & WHRITENOUR, LLC

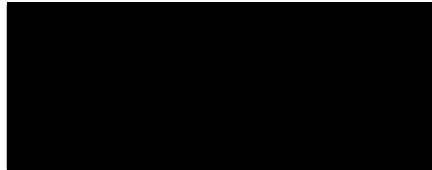
PETER W. KNYCH
*email: pkw@pknychlaw.com

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*FAX (315) 234-4119

MATTHEW E. WHRITENOUR
*e-mail: mew@knychwhritenourlaw.com

*Not For Service Of Papers Or Process

February 11, 2021




Dear 

Knych & Whritenour, LLC is writing to inform you of an event that may impact the security of some of your personal information. While we are unaware of any attempted or actual misuse of your information, we are providing you with information about the event, our response, and steps you may take to better protect against the possibility of identity theft and fraud, should you feel it is necessary to do so.

What Happened? Knych & Whritenour, LLC recently learned of unusual activity related to two of our firm email accounts. Upon learning of the suspicious activity, we immediately took steps to secure the email accounts and began working with a third-party computer forensic investigation firm to determine the nature and scope of the event. The investigation confirmed that two email accounts were accessed by an unknown actor between December 4, 2020 and December 8, 2020.

The investigation was unable to determine what emails, if any, were accessed by the unauthorized actor. In an abundance of caution, we worked with third-party specialists to perform a comprehensive review of all information stored in the email account at the time of unauthorized access to confirm the identities of the individuals whose information may have been accessible to the unauthorized actor. We then conducted a thorough manual review of our records to determine the identities and contact information for potentially impacted individuals. On or around February 1, 2021, we completed our internal review and confirmed contact information for potentially affected individuals.

What Information Was Involved? We determined the following types of information relating to you were present in an impacted email account and accessible to the unknown actor during this incident: 

How And When We Obtained Your Information? We obtained this information from your insurer, 


What We Are Doing. Upon learning of this incident, we immediately took steps to secure the affected email account. As part of our ongoing commitment to the privacy of personal information in our care, we reviewed our existing policies and procedures and implemented additional safeguards to further secure the information in our systems. We also notified state regulators, as required.


What You Can Do. You can find out more about how to protect against potential identity theft and fraud in the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Protect Your Information*. We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity.

For More Information. If you have additional questions, please call Peter W. Knych, Monday through Friday (excluding U.S. holidays), during the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time. You may write or call:

Knych & Whritenour, LLC
ATTN: Peter W. Knych, Esq.
One Park Place
Suite 404
300 South State Street
Syracuse, New York 13202
(315) 472-1175
Email: PK@pknychlaw.com

Sincerely,

KNYCH & WHRITENOUR, LLC

By: 
Peter W. Knych
Partner

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

Monitor Your Accounts

We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity. Under U.S. law you are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus. To order your free credit report, visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also contact the three major credit bureaus directly to request a free copy of your credit report.

You have the right to place a “security freeze” on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization. The security freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a security freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a security freeze on your credit report. Should you wish to place a security freeze, please contact the major consumer reporting agencies listed below:

Experian

P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
1-888-397-3742

www.experian.com/freeze/center.html

TransUnion

P.O. Box 160
Woodlyn, PA 19094
1-888-909-8872

www.transunion.com/credit-freeze

Equifax

P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788
1-800-685-1111

www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services

In order to request a security freeze, you will 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.);
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.

As an alternative to a security freeze, you have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on your 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 you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven

years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one of the agencies listed below:

Experian

P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
1-888-397-3742

www.experian.com/fraud/center.html

TransUnion

P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016
1-800-680-7289

www.transunion.com/fraud-victim-resource/place-fraud-alert

Equifax

P.O. Box 105069
Atlanta, GA 30348
1-888-766-0008

www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps you can take to protect yourself by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General.

The Federal Trade Commission can be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, www.identitytheft.gov, 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); 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. You can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. You have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and your state Attorney General. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

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/>.