

505 North Highway 169
Suite 900
Plymouth, MN 55441
1-800-836-3960

RECEIVED

JUL 05 2023

CONSUMER PROTECTION



Wealth
Enhancement
Group®

wealthenhancement.com

VIA U.S. Mail

New Hampshire Department of Justice
33 Capitol Street
Concord, NH 03301

June 27, 2023

RE: Wealth Enhancement Group Data Systems Security Incident

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to notify you that Wealth Enhancement Group ("WEG") suffered a security incident resulting in the potential unauthorized access of personal information of eight New Hampshire residents.

We recently discovered that a standalone server in one of our advisor team offices was impacted by a cybersecurity incident. On April 26, 2023, WEG IT personnel noticed that the server was unresponsive. We promptly engaged outside counsel, who in turn retained a leading digital-forensics firm to assist them in the investigation. Based on our investigation to date, we believe that an unauthorized person gained access to the server on or around April 4th, and it appears that the server was impacted on April 24th. Once we identified the data that may have been affected, we immediately engaged a data-review firm to determine what personal information, if any, was in those files. We received those results on June 1st. Since then, we have been working to assess our notification obligations and locate correct contact information for the affected individuals.

Having reviewed the data, we have reason to believe that an unauthorized person may have accessed digital, non-encrypted personal information of eight New Hampshire residents. The information that the unauthorized person may have been able to access may have included

. Our investigation continues. At this time, we have no reason to believe the information was, or will be, misused.

Consistent with our obligations under state law, we started mailing individual written notice to the affected individuals on June 28, 2023. We have attached a template of the notice we are providing to the affected New Hampshire residents. In that letter, we provide the individual with of credit-monitoring, and a toll-free number is available to field any questions individuals have about the incident. In addition, we are also sending a letter to the three main Consumer Reporting Agencies (Experian, TransUnion, and Equifax) about the incident.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

After becoming aware of this incident, we took prompt action to secure the server to help ensure that the unauthorized person no longer had access. We also took additional steps to contain the situation, including engaging outside information security and technology experts to assist in our review and investigation of the incident. As part of this investigation, our internal information security and technology experts were engaged to determine what, if any, information may have been able to be accessed. We also notified law enforcement, which did not delay this notice.

We are offering a complimentary credit monitoring and identity theft protection package through Experian IdentityWorksSM. To activate your membership and begin monitoring your personal information please follow the steps found in Attachment 1 of this letter.

In addition to our existing security measures, we have reviewed and implemented additional options to enhance our technology and security practices to reduce the risk of a similar situation occurring in the future.

WHAT INFORMATION MAY HAVE BEEN INVOLVED?

The information that the unauthorized person may have been able to access may have included f

WHAT YOU CAN DO

In addition to using the credit monitoring and identity theft protection described in Attachment 1 of this letter, we recommend that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing your account statements and monitoring free credit reports. Promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidents of identity theft to your financial institutions or company with which the account is maintained, as well as applicable authorities, including local law enforcement, your state attorney general and the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"). Individuals also have the right to obtain a police report in the event one has been created for this incident.

Additionally, to minimize the risk of tax return fraud, the FTC and the IRS both generally recommend that individuals file their income taxes for each year as early as possible.

Please note that we will not email or call you regarding this incident to ask for your personal information. We suggest that you remain cautious when opening emails, clicking on links, responding to requests for entering network credentials, or giving personal information over the phone to anyone claiming to be from Wealth Enhancement Group.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

We are strongly committed to protecting your personal information, and we apologize for any concern this incident has caused. For further information and assistance, please contact your financial advisor, or call _____ – Friday, 9:00 am - 7:00 pm Eastern Time to be directed to your financial advisor.

Sincerely,



Jeff Dekko
Chief Executive Officer
Wealth Enhancement Group

ATTACHMENT 1 - OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

CREDIT MONITORING & IDENTITY THEFT PROTECTION SERVICES

We are offering a complimentary 24 month credit monitoring and identity theft protection package through Experian. To activate your membership and start monitoring your personal information please follow the steps below:

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with identity restoration or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at for the identity restoration services by Experian.

SECURITY FREEZE & FRAUD ALERTS

You can obtain additional information from the FTC and national credit reporting agencies about placing a security freeze on your credit files and fraud alerts. You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. An initial fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit file for at least 90 days. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any accounts in your name.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON CREDIT MONITORING & IDENTITY THEFT

You can obtain information from these sources about preventing identify theft:

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

Take Charge: Fighting Back Against Identity Theft. This is a comprehensive guide from the FTC to help you guard against and deal with identity theft: <https://www.identitytheft.gov/>.

CREDIT BUREAUS

You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies once every 12 months by visiting www.annualcreditreport.com, calling 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 www.annualcreditreport.com/manualRequestForm.action.

You may also decide to purchase a copy of your credit report by contacting one of the three national credit reporting agencies listed here:

Equifax
1-800-685-1111
www.equifax.com/CreditReport
Assistance
P.O. Box 740241
Atlanta, GA 30374

Experian
1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com
P.O. Box 2002
Allen, TX 75013

TransUnion
1-800-888-4213
www.transunion.com/fraud
P.O. Box 1000
Chester, PA 19016

Review the Fair Credit Reporting Act – You also have certain rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), including the right to know what is in your file, to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information, and to have consumer reporting agencies correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information. For more information about the FCRA, and your rights pursuant to the FCRA, please visit: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf-0096-fair-credit-reporting-act.pdf>.