



<<Date>> (Format: Month Day, Year)

<<MemberFirstName>> <<MemberMiddleName>> <<MemberLastName>> <<NameSuffix>>
<<Address1>>
<<Address2>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<ZipCode>>

Notice of Security Incident

Dear <<MemberFirstName>> <<MemberLastName>>,

We are writing to inform you of a data security incident experienced by Mueller and Company LLP (“Mueller”) that may have resulted in the exposure of your personal information, including your name, Social Security number, and tax information. As you may be aware, as of January 1, 2018 Mulcahy, Pauritsch, Salvador & Co., Ltd. (“MPS”), your CPA for last year’s tax season, was acquired by Mueller. Mueller takes the privacy and security of your information seriously, and sincerely apologizes for any concern or inconvenience this may cause you. This letter contains information about steps you can take to protect your information, and resources we are making available to help you.

1. What happened and what information was involved:

On January 31, 2018, Mueller received a notice from the IRS that a small number of Mueller clients for whom MPS had filed their returns in 2017 had been flagged for potentially fraudulent activity during the current tax filing season. For some clients, these fraudulently filed returns resulted in a deposit being made to the client’s account previously used to accept tax refunds. We immediately hired a computer forensics company to assist us in investigating to determine if our systems had been compromised. On February 12, 2018, the forensic investigator informed us that in November, 2017, an unauthorized third party had accessed a computer system in MPS’s Orland Park location. This computer contained files related to tax returns prepared at the Orland Park office and may have contained your name, address, Social Security number, wage information and bank account information if you provided it to us. We immediately secured this computer system and ensured that all other Mueller computer systems were not vulnerable to the same compromise.

2. What we are doing and what you can do:

We sincerely regret any concern or inconvenience this may cause you. Because we at Mueller value you and the security of your personal information, we have secured the services of Kroll to provide identity monitoring at no cost to you for one year. Kroll is a global leader in risk mitigation and response, and their team has extensive experience helping people who have sustained an unintentional exposure of confidential data. Your identity monitoring services include Credit Monitoring, Fraud Consultation, and Identity Theft Restoration.

Visit **krollbreach.idMonitoringService.com** to activate and take advantage of your identity monitoring services.

You have until May 27, 2018 to activate your identity monitoring services.

Membership Number: <<Member ID>>

To receive credit services by mail instead of online, please call 1-800-844-2571.

More information about protecting your identity is included in this letter, including recommendations by the Federal Trade Commission regarding identity theft protection and details on how to place a fraud alert or a security freeze on your credit file.

If you received a fraudulent deposit from the IRS into your bank account as a result of this incident, the IRS has recommended the following:

- 1.** Do not spend this money, as it must be returned to the IRS.
- 2.** Contact your bank's fraud department and let them know that the money was deposited as a result of a fraudulent tax filing, and that the deposit should be reversed as soon as possible.
- 3.** Do not return the money by check. The most reliable way for the money to be returned and credited to you is to instruct your bank to reverse the deposit.
- 4.** If you have any issues with your bank and the return of the money, please contact your tax preparer at Mueller.

Additionally, if you know or suspect you are a victim of tax-related identity theft, the IRS recommends the following steps:

- Respond immediately to any IRS written notice; call the number provided or, if instructed, go to IDVerify.irs.gov.
- Complete IRS Form 14039, Identity Theft Affidavit. Use a fillable form at IRS.gov, print, then attach the form to your return and mail according to instructions. (This form will be completed by Mueller on your behalf and filed with your 2017 tax filings. If you plan on filing an extension, please contact your Mueller Tax professional for more information.)
- Continue to pay your taxes and file your tax return, even if you must do so by paper.

If you previously contacted the IRS and did not have a resolution, contact the IRS for specialized assistance at 1-800-908-4490. The IRS has teams available to assist. You may also visit <https://www.irs.gov/Individuals/Identity-Protection> for more information.

We want to assure you that we are taking steps to prevent this kind of event from happening in the future. Since the incident, we have reset all Mueller passwords and implemented new hardware and software security measures designed to secure client data in our possession.

3. For more information:

If you have any questions or concerns, please call 1-800-844-2571 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Central Time. Your trust is a top priority for Mueller, and we deeply regret any inconvenience or concern that this matter may cause you.

Sincerely,



David Nissen
Managing Partner

U.S. State Notification Requirements

For residents of Hawaii, Michigan, Missouri, Virginia, Vermont, and North Carolina:

It is recommended by state law that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity.

For residents of Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, North Carolina, Oregon, and West Virginia:

It is required by state laws to inform you that you may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report by contacting any one or more of the following national consumer reporting agencies:

Equifax

P.O. Box 105139
Atlanta, GA 30374
1-800-685-1111
www.equifax.com

Experian

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

TransUnion

P.O. Box 6790
Fullerton, CA 92834
1-800-916-8800
www.transunion.com

You may also obtain a free copy of your credit report online at www.annualcreditreport.com, by calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or by mailing an Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at www.annualcreditreport.com) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281.

For residents of Iowa:

State law advises you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

For residents of Oregon:

State laws advise you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, as well as the Federal Trade Commission.

For residents of Maryland, Illinois, North Carolina, and Rhode Island:

You can obtain information from the Maryland, North Carolina, and Rhode Island Offices of the Attorneys General and the Federal Trade Commission about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft.

Maryland Attorney General

Consumer Protection Div.
200 St. Paul Place
Baltimore, MD 21202
1-888-743-0023
www.oag.state.md.us

North Carolina Attorney General

Consumer Protection Div.
9001 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-9001
1-877-566-7226
www.ncdoj.com

Rhode Island Attorney General

Consumer Protection Div.
150 South Main Street
Providence, RI 02903
(401) 274-4400
www.riag.ri.gov

Federal Trade Commission

Consumer Response Center
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20580
1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338)
www.identityTheft.gov

For residents of Massachusetts:

It is required by state law that you are informed of your right to obtain a police report if you are a victim of identity theft.

For residents of all states:

Fraud Alerts: You can place fraud alerts with the three credit bureaus 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 credit bureaus is below.

Monitoring: You should always remain vigilant and monitor your accounts for suspicious or unusual activity.

Security Freeze: You also have the right to place a security freeze on your credit report. A security freeze is intended to prevent credit, loans and services from being approved in your name without your consent. To place a security freeze on your credit report, you need to send a request to each consumer reporting agency by certified mail, overnight mail, or regular stamped mail. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, display your name and current mailing address, and the date of issue. The consumer reporting agency may charge a fee of up to \$5.00 to place a freeze or lift or remove a freeze, but is free if you are a victim of identity theft or the spouse of a victim of identity theft, and you have submitted a valid police report relating to the identity theft incident to the consumer reporting agencies:

Equifax Security Freeze

P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348
www.equifax.com

Experian Security Freeze

P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
<http://www.experian.com/freeze>

TransUnion (FVAD)

P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19022
www.transunion.com

More information can also be obtained by contacting the Federal Trade Commission listed above.