

## **Brainard Surgery Center LLC Provides Notice of Data Security Incident**

**April 24, 2025** – Brainard Surgery Center LLC (“Brainard”) is providing notice of a recent data security incident that may have impacted the information of certain individuals that were treated by Brainard. Brainard is providing notice of the incident so potentially affected individuals may take steps to protect their information should they feel it appropriate to do so.

**What Happened?** On February 23, 2025, Brainard became aware of suspicious activity in its computer network. Brainard promptly launched an investigation with the assistance of third-party cybersecurity and digital forensics specialists to determine the nature and scope of the incident. Through the investigation, we determined that certain files were taken from our systems during the period of unauthorized access. We subsequently began conducting a comprehensive review of the files determined to be at risk to identify the type of information at issue and to whom it relates. This review is presently ongoing and we intend to notify affected individuals by sending notice letters through the U.S. postal service once the review is completed.

**What Information Was Involved?** The type of data impacted will vary by individual, but may include: name, address, date of birth, Social Security number, driver’s license number or other state identification number, medical claims information, clinical information (including diagnosis/conditions, medications, and other health information) and/or health insurance information.

**What Brainard Is Doing.** The confidentiality, privacy, and security of information within its care are among Brainard’s highest priorities. Upon discovering the incident, Brainard promptly launched an investigation to determine what data may be at risk. Furthermore, we have implemented additional security measures to protect against similar incidents moving forward.

**For More Information.** If you have any questions regarding this incident, you may call 1-888-830-8199 Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm ET. You may also write to Brainard at 29017 Cedar Road, Lyndhurst, OH 44124.

**What Are General Steps One Can Take to Protect Personal Information?** Brainard encourages individuals to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing their account statements and explanation of benefits to identify suspicious activity and detect errors.

Under U.S. law, a consumer is entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. To order a free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. Consumers may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of their credit report.

Consumers have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a one-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 consumers are the victim of identity theft, they are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should consumers wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any of the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, consumers have the right to place a “credit freeze” on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without the consumer’s express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in a consumer’s name without consent. However, consumers should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in their credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application they

make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, consumers cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on their credit report. To request a credit freeze, individuals may need to provide some or all of the following information:

1. full name (including middle initial as well as jr., sr., ii, iii, etc.);
2. Social security number;
3. date of birth;
4. addresses for the prior two to 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, etc.); and
7. a copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft if they are a victim of identity theft.

Should consumers wish to place a credit freeze or fraud alert, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

<b>Equifax</b>	<b>Experian</b>	<b>TransUnion</b>
<a href="https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/">https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/</a>	<a href="https://www.experian.com/help/">https://www.experian.com/help/</a>	<a href="https://www.transunion.com/credit-help">https://www.transunion.com/credit-help</a>
1-888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	1-833-799-5355
Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069	Experian Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016
Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788	Experian Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094

Consumers may further educate themselves regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps they can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or their state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov); 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and 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. Consumers can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Consumers have the right to file a police report if they ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, consumers will likely need to provide some proof that they have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and the relevant state Attorney General. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.