



P.O. Box 989728  
West Sacramento, CA 95798-9728

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

Enrollment Code: <<Enrollment Code>>

To Enroll, Scan the QR Code Below:



Or Visit:  
<https://response.idx.us/horne>

December 26, 2023

RE: NOTICE OF <<Variable Data 2>>

Dear <<First Name>> <<Last Name>>:

HORNE, LLP (“HORNE”) is writing to inform you of an incident that may impact the security of some of your information. HORNE is a professional services firm that provides business advisory and consulting services to its clients, including <<Variable Data 3>>. While we are unaware of any actual or attempted misuse of your information, we are providing you with information about the incident, 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?** In December 2021, HORNE became aware of suspicious activity related to certain systems. We immediately took steps to secure our environment and launched an investigation to determine the nature and scope of the activity. The investigation determined there was unauthorized access to certain files and folders within our network between December 8, 2021 and December 13, 2021. While the investigation was able to confirm that certain systems were accessed, it was unable to confirm what information within those systems was actually accessed. Therefore, out of an abundance of caution, HORNE conducted an extensive review of the contents of the impacted systems to determine whether sensitive information may have been present at the time of the incident.

**What Information Was Involved?** Our investigation determined that information related to certain individuals was present on the impacted systems. Following this determination, we undertook an in-depth review process to identify the individuals and HORNE clients who were potentially impacted. HORNE is notifying you now out of an abundance of caution because the investigation recently determined that certain information relating to you may have been within the accessed systems, including your name and <<Variable Data 1>>. Please note that we do not have any evidence to indicate that your information was subject to actual or attempted misuse as a result of this incident.

**What We Are Doing.** We take this incident and the security of information in our care very seriously. Upon becoming aware of this incident, we immediately took steps to confirm the security of our environment. We are also reviewing existing security policies and have implemented additional measures to further protect against similar incidents moving forward. We reported this incident to law enforcement and regulators, as required by law.

In addition to providing you with notice of the event, we are also offering you immediate access to complimentary credit monitoring and identity theft protection services for <<12/24>> months, through IDX. You can find information on how to enroll in these services in the below “*Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information.*”

**What You Can Do.** We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your account statements, explanation of benefits, and monitoring your free credit reports for suspicious activity and to

detect errors. Please also review the information contained in the enclosed “*Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information*” where you may also find instructions to activate the credit monitoring and identity theft protection services we are offering.

**For More Information.** We understand that you may have questions about this incident that are not addressed in this letter. If you have additional questions, please call our dedicated assistance line at 1-833-758-7004 Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Eastern Time. We take this incident very seriously and sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause you. You can also write to HORNE at 661 Sunnybrook Road, Ridgeland, MS 39157.

Sincerely,

HORNE, LLP

## STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

### **Enroll in Credit Monitoring**

**1. Website and Enrollment.** Go to <https://response.idx.us/horne> and follow the instructions for enrollment using your Enrollment Code provided at the top of the letter. The deadline for enrollment is June 12, 2024.

**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 1-833-758-7004 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.

### **Monitor Your Accounts**

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 your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of your 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 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 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 your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit 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 credit freeze on your credit report. To request a security freeze, you will need to provide 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 you are a victim of identity theft.

Should you wish to place a credit freeze, 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>
888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	1-800-916-8800
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

### **Additional Information**

You may further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps you can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 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. 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.

*For District of Columbia residents*, the District of Columbia Attorney General may be contacted at: 400 6th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001; 202-727-3400; and [oag.dc.gov](http://oag.dc.gov).

*For Maryland residents*, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at: 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-528-8662 or 1-888-743-0023; and [www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov).

*For 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 bureaus 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 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. We encourage you to review your rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting [https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\\_cfpb\\_summary\\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf](https://files.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.

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

*For North Carolina residents*, the North Carolina Attorney General may be contacted at: 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; and [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov).

*For Rhode Island residents*, the Rhode Island Attorney General may be reached at: 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903; [www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov); and 1-401-274-4400. Under Rhode Island law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. There are 0 known Rhode Island residents impacted by this incident.