## SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF NEW YORK

Nemeth v. Columbia University Health Care, Inc. Case No. 655570/2024

IF YOU WERE NOTIFIED BY COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY HEALTH CARE, INC., OF AN ALLEGED DATA INCIDENT THAT ALLEGEDLY OCCURRED BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 11, 2023, AND MARCH 7, 2024, YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR PAYMENT AND CREDIT MONITORING SERVICES FROM A CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT.

A court authorized this Notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

Si desea recibir esta notificación en español, visite la página de documentos en el sitio web del acuerdo.

- A settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit against Columbia University Health Care, Inc. ("Columbia" or "Defendant"), regarding an alleged data incident alleged to have occurred between **September 11, 2023**, and **March 7, 2024** (the "Data Incident").
- The lawsuit is called *Nemeth v. Columbia University Health Care, Inc.*, Case No. 655570/2024 (the "Action"). The lawsuit alleges that the Data Incident potentially impacted certain Private Information of Plaintiff and the members of the putative class.
- The Settlement Class includes all individuals in the United States whose Private Information was impacted in the Data Incident. It excludes (1) the judges presiding over this Action and members of their direct families; (2) Defendant, its subsidiaries, parent companies, successors, and predecessors, any entity in which Defendant or its parents have a controlling interest, and their current or former officers and directors; and (3) Settlement Class Members who submit a valid Request for Exclusion prior to the Opt-Out Deadline.
- Your legal rights are affected regardless of whether you act. Please read this Notice carefully.

YOUR LEGAL RIGHTS AND OPTIONS IN THIS SETTLEMENT	
SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM	This is the only way you may receive benefits from this Settlement. The deadline to submit a Claim Form is <b>November 25, 2025</b> .
EXCLUDE YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT	If you exclude yourself, you will receive no payment or benefits, but you will retain any rights you currently have with respect to Defendant and the issues in this case. The deadline to exclude yourself from the Settlement is <b>October 27, 2025</b> .
OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT	You may write to the Settlement Administrator explaining why you do not agree with the Settlement but remain bound by the Settlement. The deadline to object is <b>October 27, 2025</b> .
ATTEND THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING	You or your attorney may attend and speak about your objection at the Final Approval Hearing. The Final Approval Hearing will be held on <b>December 5, 2025</b> .
DO NOTHING	If you do nothing, you will not get any payments or benefits from the Settlement, and you will give up certain legal rights. You will remain in the Settlement Class and be subject to the Release.

- These rights and options, and the deadlines to exercise them, are explained in this Notice. For complete details, please see the Settlement Agreement, which is available at ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com.
- The Court in charge of this case still has to decide whether to approve the Settlement. No Settlement benefits or payments will be provided unless the Court approves the Settlement and it becomes final.

## **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## WHY YOU ARE RECEIVING THIS NOTICE

### What is this Notice, and why should I read it?

The Court authorized this Notice to inform you about a proposed Settlement with Defendant. The case is called *Nemeth v. Columbia University Health Care, Inc.*, Case No. 655570/2024. You have legal rights and options that you may act on before the Court decides whether to approve the proposed Settlement. This Notice explains the lawsuit, the Settlement, and your legal rights

#### What is a class action lawsuit?

A class action is a lawsuit in which one or more plaintiffs—in this case, Margaret Nemeth—sue on behalf of a group of people who have similar claims. Together, this group is called a "class" and consists of "class members." In a class action, the court resolves the issues for all class members, except those who exclude themselves from the class.

#### THE CLAIMS IN THE LAWSUIT AND THE SETTLEMENT

#### What is this lawsuit about?

Plaintiff claims that Defendant failed to implement and maintain reasonable security measures to adequately protect the Private Information in its possession and to prevent the Data Incident from occurring.

Defendant denies that it is liable for the claims made in the lawsuit and denies all allegations of wrongdoing. More information about the complaint in the lawsuit can be found on the Settlement Website at ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com.

## Why is there a Settlement?

The Court has not decided whether Plaintiff or Defendant should win this case. Instead, both sides agreed to this Settlement. This way, they can avoid the uncertainty, risks, and expense of ongoing litigation, and Settlement Class Members will be eligible to get compensation now rather than years later—if ever. The Class Representatives and attorneys for the Settlement Class Members, called Class Counsel, agree the Settlement is in the best interests of the Settlement Class Members. The Settlement is not an admission of wrongdoing by Defendant.

## Who's Included in the Settlement

### How do I know if I am in the Settlement Class?

You are part of the Settlement as a Settlement Class Member if Defendant sent you a notification stating that your Private Information was or may have been impacted in the Data Incident.

If you are still not sure whether you are included, you can contact the Settlement Administrator by calling 1-888-887-7407, by emailing info@ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com, or by visiting the Settlement Website at ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com.

This Settlement Class does not include (1) the Judge presiding over this Action or members of their direct families; (2) Defendant or its current and former officers and directors; or (3) Settlement Class Members who submit a valid Request for Exclusion prior to the Opt-Out Deadline.

#### THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS

## What does the Settlement provide?

Under the proposed Settlement, Defendant will pay (or cause to be paid) \$600,000 into a Settlement Fund. The Settlement Fund, plus interest accrued thereon, will pay notice and administration costs, Court-approved attorneys' fees and costs, Court-approved Service Awards for the Class Representatives, and certain Settlement Fund taxes and tax expenses (the "Net Settlement Fund"). The Net Settlement Fund will be used to provide eligible Settlement Class Members with payments and benefits, described below.<sup>1</sup>

<u>Credit Monitoring:</u> Settlement Class Members may claim two years of the CyEx Medical Shield Complete to monitor medical and healthcare data. The product includes one-bureau credit monitoring, health insurance plan ID monitoring, Medicare beneficiary monitoring, medical record number monitoring, dark web monitoring, health savings account monitoring, national provider identifier monitoring, high-risk transaction monitoring, security freeze assist, and victim assistance.

**Monetary Relief:** Adult Subclass members may claim reimbursement of Documented Losses *and/or* a pro rata cash payment.

- 1. **Documented Losses:** Settlement Class Members may claim reimbursement for up to \$10,000 losses related to the Data Incident, provided those losses are supported by documentation.
  - **A.** Types of Losses Eligible for Reimbursement: Documented Losses can include (but are not limited to) bank fees, long-distance phone charges, cell phone charges (only if charged by minute), data charges (only if charged based on the amount of data used), postage, gasoline for local travel, or fees for credit reports, credit monitoring, or other identity theft insurance products purchased between December 21, 2023, and November 25, 2025.
  - **B.** Supporting Documents: To receive reimbursement for any Documented Loss, Settlement Class Members must submit supporting documentation of the loss and a description of how the loss is fairly traceable to the Data Incident, if not readily apparent from the documentation. Documented Losses can be supported with receipts or other documentation that demonstrates the reasonable costs actually incurred by the Claimant. "Self-prepared" documents, such as handwritten receipts, are, by themselves, insufficient to receive reimbursement but may be considered to add clarity or support other submitted documentation.
- 2. Pro Rata Cash Payment: In addition to or instead of claiming Documented Losses as set forth above, Settlement Class Members may claim a Pro Rata Cash Payment. Pro Rata Cash Payments will be calculated by dividing the funds remaining in the Settlement Fund after payment of Settlement Administration Fees, Fee Award and Expenses, Service Awards, Credit Monitoring and Identity Restoration Services, and Documented Losses.

#### How to Get Benefits

#### How do I make a Claim?

To qualify for a cash benefit under the Settlement or to request credit monitoring services, you must complete and submit a Claim Form.

Settlement Class Members who want to submit a Claim must fill out and submit a Claim Form online at the Settlement Website, ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com, or by mail to the Settlement Administrator. Claim Forms are available through the Settlement Website at ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com or by calling 1-888-887-7407.

All Claim Forms must be submitted online at the Settlement Website or postmarked, if mailed, no later than November 25, 2025.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> If the benefits claimed by all Settlement Class Members meets or exceeds the amount of the Net Settlement Fund, then the payments and/or benefits for your Claim may be reduced *pro rata* pursuant to Paragraph 62 of the Settlement Agreement by the Settlement Administrator so that the aggregate cost of all payments and benefits does not exceed the amount of the Net Settlement Fund.

## When will I get my payment?

The hearing to consider the fairness of the Settlement is scheduled for **December 5**, **2025**. If the Court approves the Settlement, eligible Settlement Class Members whose Claims were approved by the Settlement Administrator will be sent payment after all appeals and other reviews, if any, are completed. Please be patient.

## THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

#### Do I have a lawyer in this case?

The Court has appointed Edward Ciolko of Sterlington PLLC, Gary E. Mason of Mason LLP, and Daniel Srourian of Srourian Law Firm P.C. as "Class Counsel" to represent all Settlement Class Members. You will not be charged for these lawyers. You can ask your own lawyer to appear in Court for you at your own expense if you want someone other than Class Counsel to represent you.

Gary E. Mason Mason LLP 5335 Wisconsin Ave. NW, Ste. 640 Washington, DC 20015

1-202-640-1160

Daniel Srourian **Srourian Law Firm, P.C.** 468 N. Camden Dr., Suite 200 Beverly Hills, California 90210

1-213-474-3800

Edward Ciolko **Sterlington PLLC** 530 Fifth Avenue, Ste. 804 New York, NY 10036

1-212-433-2993

## How will the lawyers be paid?

To date, Class Counsel have not received any payment for their services in conducting this litigation on behalf of the Class and have not been paid for their out-of-pocket expenses. Class Counsel will ask the Court for an award of attorneys' fees not to exceed one-third of the Settlement Fund, or \$200,000, and for the reimbursement of litigation costs and expenses which were incurred in connection with the Action, not to exceed \$25,000. Such sums as may be approved by the Court will be paid from the Settlement Fund.

Class Counsel will also request a service award payment of \$2,500 for each of two Class Representatives, to be paid from the Settlement Fund.

The Court will determine the proper amount of any attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses to award Class Counsel and the proper amount of any service awards to the Class Representatives.

Class Counsel will file their request for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses and Service Awards for the Class Representatives with the Court. This request will be posted on the Settlement Website at ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com.

#### YOUR RIGHTS AND OPTIONS

### What claims will I give up by participating in this Settlement?

If you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement, you will not be able to sue Defendant about the Data Incident, and you will be bound by all decisions made by the Court in this case, the Settlement, and its included Release. This is true regardless of whether you submit a Claim Form. However, you may exclude yourself from the Settlement (see below). If you exclude yourself from the Settlement, you will not be bound by any of the Released Claims, which are described in the Settlement Agreement, available on the Settlement Website at ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com.

#### What happens if I do nothing at all?

If you do nothing, you will receive no benefits under the Settlement. You will be in the Settlement Class, and if the Court approves the Settlement, you will also be bound by all orders and judgments of the Court, the Settlement, and its included Release. You will be deemed to have participated in the Settlement and will be subject to the provisions of the Settlement Agreement. Unless you exclude yourself, you won't be able to file a lawsuit or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant for the claims or legal issues released in this Settlement.

#### What happens if I ask to be excluded?

If you exclude yourself from the Settlement, you will receive no benefits under the Settlement. However, you will not be in the Settlement Class and will not be legally bound by the Court's judgments related to the Settlement Class and Defendant in this class action.

#### How do I ask to be excluded?

You can ask to be excluded from the Settlement. To do so, you must send a written notification to the Settlement Administrator stating that you want to be excluded from the Settlement in *Nemeth v. Columbia University Health Care, Inc.*, Case No. 655570/2024. Your written notification must include (1) the name of the proceeding; (2) your full name and current address; (3) your signature; and (4) the words "Request for Exclusion" or a comparable statement that you do not wish to participate in the Settlement at the top of the communication. You must mail your exclusion request, postmarked no later than **October 27, 2025**, to the following address:

Columbia Data Incident Settlement Administrator P.O. Box 4118 Portland, OR 97208-4118

You cannot exclude yourself by phone or email. Any individual who wants to be excluded from the Settlement must submit his or her own exclusion request. No group opt-outs shall be permitted.

#### If I don't exclude myself, can I sue Defendant for the same thing later?

No. Unless you exclude yourself, you give up any right to sue Defendant for the claims or legal issues released in this Settlement, even if you do nothing.

## If I exclude myself, can I get anything from this Settlement?

No. If you exclude yourself, you will no longer be eligible for any benefits.

#### How do I object to the Settlement?

If you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you can object to the Settlement if you do not agree with any part of it. You can give reasons why you think the Court should deny approval by filing an objection. To object, you must mail a written objection to the Settlement Administrator stating that you object to the Settlement in *Nemeth v. Columbia University Health Care, Inc.*, Case No. 655570/2024. Your objection must be filed no later than **October 27, 2025**.

A written objection must include (1) the name of the proceedings; (2) the Settlement Class Member's full name, current mailing address, and telephone number; (3) a statement of the specific grounds for the objection, as well as any documents supporting the objection and a description of whether the objection applies only to the Settlement Class Member, a subset of the Settlement Class, or the entire Settlement Class; (4) the identity of any attorneys representing the objector (if any), as well as a description of the attorney's background and prior experience, the amount of anticipated fees and method of calculation, the attorney's hourly rate, and the number of hours spent working; (5) a statement regarding whether the Settlement Class Member (or his/her attorney) intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing; (6) a description and/or copies of evidence that may be introduced at the Final Approval Hearing; (7) a list of proceedings in which the Settlement Class Member and his/her attorney, if applicable, have submitted an objection during the past five years; and (8) the signature of the Settlement Class Member or the Settlement Class Member's attorney.

Written objections should be submitted to the Court at the address below:

New York County Supreme Court 60 Centre Street New York, NY 10007

You must also mail the objection to the Settlement Administrator at the address listed below, postmarked no later than October 27, 2025:

Columbia Data Incident Settlement Administrator P.O. Box 4118 Portland, OR 97208-4118

## What's the difference between objecting to and excluding myself from the Settlement?

Objecting simply means telling the Court that you don't like something about the Settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Settlement Class. Excluding yourself from the Settlement Class is telling the Court that you don't want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you exclude yourself, you will have no basis to object because the case will no longer affect you.

## THE COURT'S FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

## When and where will the Court hold a hearing on the fairness of the Settlement?

The Court will hold the Final Approval Hearing on **December 5, 2025, at 11 a.m.** ET by videoconference. Please check the Settlement Website at ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com for information regarding the videoconference. The purpose of the hearing is for the Court to determine whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, adequate, and in the best interests of the Settlement Class. At the hearing, the Court will hear any objections and arguments concerning the fairness of the proposed Settlement, including those related to the amount requested by Class Counsel for attorneys' fees, costs, and expenses and the Service Awards to Class Representatives.

The location, date, and time of the Final Approval Hearing are subject to change by Court order. Any changes will be posted on the Settlement Website, at ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com, or through the Court's publicly available docket. You should check the Settlement Website to confirm the manner, date, and time have not changed.

#### Do I have to come to the hearing?

No. Class Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have, but you are welcome to attend the hearing at your own expense. If you send an objection, you don't have to come to Court to talk about it. If your written objection is filed or mailed on time and meets the other criteria described in the Settlement, the Court will consider it. However, you may appear on your behalf or pay a lawyer to attend on your behalf to assert your objection if you would like.

## May I speak at the hearing?

Yes. If you do not exclude yourself from the Settlement Class, you (or your attorney) may appear and speak at the Final Approval Hearing concerning any part of the proposed Settlement.

## **GETTING MORE INFORMATION**

#### Where can I get additional information?

This Notice summarizes the proposed Settlement. More details are in the Settlement Agreement, which is available at ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com, or by writing to Columbia Data Incident Settlement Administrator, P.O. Box 4118, Portland, OR 97208-4118.

# How do I get more information?

Go to the Settlement Website at ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com, call 1-888-887-7407, email info@ColumbiaHealthCareDataBreach.com, or write to Columbia Data Incident Settlement Administrator, P.O. Box 4118, Portland, OR 97208-4118.

PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE COURT, THE CLERK OF THE COURT, THE JUDGE, OR DEFENDANT WITH QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SETTLEMENT OR CLAIMS PROCESS.