



1 Plaintiff Brigid Poling (“Plaintiff”), individually and on behalf of all others similarly situated  
2 and on behalf of the general public, alleges the following against Defendant Artech L.L.C.  
3 (“Defendant” or “Artech”) based upon personal knowledge with respect to herself and on information  
4 and belief derived from, among other things, investigation of counsel and review of public documents  
5 as to all other matters:

6 **BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE CASE**

7 1. Defendant is a workforce solutions company providing managed services, contingent  
8 labor, staff augmentation, IT consulting, project outsourcing, and statement of work services across  
9 multiple industries, including systems integration, banking and finance, telecommunications,  
10 pharmaceutical & life sciences, energy, healthcare, technology, transportation, and local & federal  
11 government agencies.

12 2. On or about September 4, 2020, Defendant began notifying individuals, including  
13 Plaintiff and other “Class Members” (Class Members defined below) that on January 8, 2020,  
14 Defendant received a report of unusual activity relating to an employee’s Artech user account. A  
15 subsequent investigation determined that an unauthorized actor gained access to certain of Defendant’s  
16 computer systems between January 5, 2020 and January 8, 2020 (the “Data Breach”).

17 3. Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ data maintained on Defendant’s computer systems and  
18 subject to the Data Breach included the types of sensitive personally identifiable information (“PII”)  
19 that statutory and common law require companies to take security measures to protect: names, Social  
20 Security numbers, medical information, health insurance information, financial information, payment  
21 card information, driver’s license/state identification numbers, government issued identification  
22 numbers, passport numbers, visa numbers, electronic/digital signatures, usernames and password  
23 information. This data should have received the most rigorous protection available – it did not.

24 4. Even though Defendant was storing sensitive PII that it knew was valuable to criminals,  
25 and vulnerable to exfiltration, Defendant failed to take security precautions necessary to protect  
26 Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ data. Because Defendant failed to take necessary security precautions,  
27 Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ unencrypted PII was accessed and acquired by an unauthorized person  
28

1 or persons as a result of the Data Breach. As a result, Plaintiff and Class Members have been harmed  
2 and face an increased risk of future harm.

### 3 **PARTIES**

4 5. Plaintiff Brigid Poling is an individual residing in Menlo Park, California. In mid- to  
5 late-September 2020, Plaintiff Poling received a “Notice of Data Breach” dated September 8, 2020,  
6 from Defendant (attached hereto as **Exhibit 1**) notifying her that her PII was compromised as a result  
7 of the Data Breach of Defendant’s computer systems that took place between January 5, 2020, and  
8 January 8, 2020. The “Notice of Data Breach” specifically stated that Plaintiff Poling’s name and  
9 Social Security number were accessed and acquired in the Data Breach. Plaintiff Poling’s PII was in  
10 the possession, custody, and/or control of Defendant at the time of the Data Breach. Plaintiff Poling’s  
11 PII remains in the possession, custody, and/or control of Defendant. Since learning of the Data Breach,  
12 Plaintiff Poling has become worried that she will become a victim of identity theft or other fraud.  
13 Since learning of the Data Breach, Plaintiff Poling has spent time investigating the Data Breach and  
14 attempting to mitigate potential future harm that may result from the Data Breach. Since the Data  
15 Breach, Plaintiff Poling has also experienced an increase of spam texts and spam email and, as a direct  
16 and proximate result of the Data Breach, is now at a substantial and increased risk of future identity  
17 theft.

18 6. Defendant Artech L.L.C. is a New Jersey limited liability company with its principal  
19 place of business and global headquarters located in Morristown, New Jersey.

### 20 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

21 7. This Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §  
22 1332(d) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000 (exclusive of interests and costs),  
23 because there are more than 100 members in each of the proposed classes, and because at least one  
24 member of each of the proposed classes is a citizen of a State different from Defendant.

25 8. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because it regularly conducts  
26 business in California.

9. Venue is proper in this Court pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391 because a substantial part of the events, acts, and omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claims occurred in, was directed to, and/or emanated from this District.

## **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

### **Defendant**

10. Boasting more than 10,500 industry professionals in its employ, Defendant is a workforce solutions company maintaining operations in the US, Canada, India, and China. Defendant provides managed services, contingent labor, staff augmentation, IT consulting, project outsourcing, and statement of work services across multiple industries, including systems integration, banking and finance, telecommunications, pharmaceutical & life sciences, energy, healthcare, technology, transportation, and local & federal government agencies.

11. As part of its business operations, Defendant receives, collects, and maintains on its computer systems a large amount of sensitive PII which, when in the possession of unscrupulous individuals, may be used to commit various forms of fraud and identity theft.

### **The Data Breach**

12. On or about September 4, 2020, Defendant began filing with various state Attorneys General a sample "Notice of Data Breach" letter (attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**), a "Notice of Data Event" statement (attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**), and a "Press Release" (attached hereto as **Exhibit 4**) (collectively "Data Breach Notices") that mirrored the language of letters Defendant began mailing to Data Breach victims (including Plaintiff and Class Members) on or about that same date.

13. According to Defendant's "Data Breach Notices," Defendant discovered the Data Breach on January 8, 2020. The "Data Breach Notices" further state that "an unauthorized actor had access to certain Artech systems between January 5, 2020, and January 8, 2020."

14. According to the "Notice of Data Event" and "Press Release," Defendant's investigation determined that information accessed and acquired during the Data Breach potentially included the following: names, Social Security numbers, medical information, health insurance information, financial information, payment card information, driver's license/state identification

1 numbers, government issued identification numbers, passport numbers, visa numbers,  
2 electronic/digital signatures, usernames and password information.

3 15. It is apparent from Defendant's "Data Breach Notices" that the PII accessed and  
4 acquired during the Data Breach was not encrypted.

5 16. According to the "Notice of Data Event" and "Press Release," Defendant "changed  
6 system credentials and took steps to secure its systems and assess relevant company systems that may  
7 have been impacted by the event," and is "working with external digital forensic specialists to enhance  
8 existing security processes and protocols."

9 17. According to the "Notice of Data Breach," Defendant "reset passwords for all Artech  
10 users, further strengthened [its] existing technical controls, and implemented additional security  
11 measures," and "reviewed [its] policies and procedures relating to data security and [is] conducting  
12 additional employee training."

13 18. Defendant's "Notice of Data Breach" acknowledged the very real threat that the  
14 incident would result in identity theft, fraud, and other similar risks by advising recipients of the notice  
15 – such as Plaintiff and Class Members – to "remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and  
16 fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity."

17 19. Defendant's "Notice of Data Breach" advises victims to consider "plac[ing] a 'security  
18 freeze' on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing  
19 information in your credit report without express authorization. The security freeze is designed to  
20 prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent."

21 20. Defendant's "Data Breach Notices" advise victims to report incidents of fraud and  
22 identity theft to the Federal Trade Commission, local law enforcement, and/or their state's attorney  
23 general.

24 21. Although it appears Defendant knew of the Data Breach no later than January 8, 2020,  
25 Defendant took no steps to directly notify Plaintiff or Class Members until September 4, 2020, when  
26 Defendant began mailing "Notice of Data Breach" letters. This was a delay of not less than 240 days.

22. The Data Breach resulted in the unauthorized access, acquisition, appropriation, disclosure, encumbrance, exfiltration, release, use and/or viewing of unsecured PII of Plaintiff and Class Members.

23. As a result of the Data Breach, the security and privacy of Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII was compromised.

#### **The California Attorney General Notice**

24. On or about September 4, 2020, Defendant filed with California's Attorney General a sample "Notice of Data Breach" letter (attached hereto as **Exhibit 2**), a "Notice of Data Event" statement (attached hereto as **Exhibit 3**), and a "Press Release" (attached hereto as **Exhibit 4**) that mirrored the language of letters Defendant sent to Plaintiff and Class Members.

25. The sample "Notice of Data Breach" letter, "Notice of Data Event" statement, and "Press Release" were each filed with California's Attorney General in accordance with California Civ. Code § 1798.82(f).

26. Pursuant to California Civ. Code § 1798.82(f), "[a] person or business that is required to issue a security breach notification pursuant to [§ 1798.82(a)] to more than 500 California residents as a result of a single breach of the security system shall electronically submit a single sample copy of that security breach notification, excluding any personally identifiable information, to the Attorney General."

27. Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII is "personal information" as defined by California Civ. Code § 1798.82(h).

28. Pursuant to California Civ. Code § 1798.82(a), data breach notification letters are sent to residents of California "whose unencrypted personal information was, or is reasonably believed to have been, acquired by an unauthorized person" due to a "breach of the security of the system."

29. California Civ. Code § 1798.82(g) defines "breach of the security of the system" as the "unauthorized acquisition of computerized data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of personal information maintained by the person or business."

30. The Data Breach was a "breach of the security of the system" as defined by California Civ. Code § 1798.82(g).

1           31.     Thus, Defendant filed with California's Attorney General and disseminated these  
2 breach notifications because Plaintiff's and Class Members' unencrypted PII was acquired by an  
3 unauthorized person or persons as a result of the Data Breach.

4           32.     Defendant reasonably believes Plaintiff's and Class Members' unencrypted PII was  
5 acquired by an unauthorized person as a result of the Data Breach.

6           33.     The security, confidentiality, or integrity of Plaintiff's and Class Members'  
7 unencrypted PII was compromised by Defendant as a result of the Data Breach.

8           34.     Defendant reasonably believes the security, confidentiality, or integrity of Plaintiff's  
9 and Class Members' unencrypted PII was compromised by Defendant as a result of the Data Breach.

10          35.     Defendant reasonably believes Plaintiff's and Class Members' unencrypted PII that was  
11 acquired by an unauthorized person as a result of the Data Breach was viewed by unauthorized  
12 persons.

13          36.     It is reasonable to infer that Plaintiff's and Class Members' unencrypted PII that was  
14 acquired by an unauthorized person as a result of the Data Breach was viewed by unauthorized  
15 persons.

16          37.     It should be rebuttably presumed that Plaintiff's and Class Members' unencrypted PII  
17 that was acquired by an unauthorized person as a result of the Data Breach was viewed by  
18 unauthorized persons.

19          38.     After receiving letters sent pursuant to California Civ. Code § 1798.82(a) – and filed  
20 with the Attorney General of California in accordance with California Civ. Code § 1798.82(f) – it is  
21 reasonable for recipients, including Plaintiff and Class Members in this case, to believe that the risk of  
22 future harm (including identity theft) is substantial, real and imminent, and to take steps to mitigate  
23 that substantial risk of future harm.

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**Defendant Expressly Promised to Protect Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII**

39. Defendant's Privacy Policy<sup>1</sup> states, as relevant: "Artech respects and is committed to protecting your privacy." ... "At no time [] will Artech, sell, trade, rent or distribute personal information to any outside organization."

40. Notwithstanding the foregoing promises, Defendant failed to protect the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members, as conceded in Defendant's Data Breach Notices.

41. If Defendant truly understood the importance of safeguarding Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII, it would acknowledge its responsibility for the harm it has caused, and would compensate Plaintiff and Class Members, provide long-term protection for Plaintiff and Class Members, agree to Court-ordered and enforceable changes to its cybersecurity policies and procedures, and adopt regular and intensive training to ensure that a data breach like this never happens again.

42. Defendant's data security obligations were particularly important given the known substantial increase in data breaches in various industries, including the recent massive data breaches involving Yahoo, First American Financial Corp., Facebook, Equifax, Marriott, Anthem, Twitter, Target, Home Depot, LabCorp, Quest Diagnostics, and many others. And, given the wide publicity given to these data breaches, there is no excuse for Defendant's failure to adequately protect Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII.

43. Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII is now in the hands of cyber criminals who will use it if given the chance. Much of this information is unchangeable and loss of control of this information is remarkably dangerous to Plaintiff and Class Members.

**Defendant had an Obligation to Protect Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII**

44. Defendant had obligations created by California's Customer Records Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.80 *et seq.*), California's Consumer Privacy Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.100 *et seq.*), common law, and based on industry standards, to keep the compromised PII confidential and to protect it from unauthorized access, acquisition, appropriation, disclosure, encumbrance, exfiltration,

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<sup>1</sup> Privacy Policy, <https://www.artech.com/privacy-policy/> (last visited Oct. 27, 2020).



1 release, use and/or viewing. Plaintiff and Class Members provided their PII to Defendant with the  
2 common sense understanding that Defendant would comply with its obligations to keep such  
3 information confidential and secure from unauthorized access, acquisition, appropriation, disclosure,  
4 encumbrance, exfiltration, release, use and/or viewing.

5 45. Defendant's data security obligations and promises were particularly important given  
6 the substantial increase in data breaches, which were widely known to the public and to anyone in  
7 Defendant's industry.

8 46. Defendant failed to spend sufficient resources on data security and training its  
9 employees to identify data security threats and weaknesses and defend against them.

10 47. Defendant's security failures demonstrate that it failed to honor its duties and promises  
11 by not:

12 a. Maintaining an adequate data security system to reduce the risk of data leaks,  
13 data breaches, and cyber-attacks; and

14 b. Adequately protecting Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII.

15 48. Defendant was also prohibited by the Federal Trade Commission Act ("FTC Act") (15  
16 U.S.C. §45) from engaging in "unfair or deceptive acts or practices in or affecting commerce." The  
17 Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") has concluded that a company's failure to maintain reasonable  
18 and appropriate data security for consumers' sensitive personal information is an "unfair practice" in  
19 violation of the FTC Act. *See, e.g., FTC v. Wyndham Worldwide Corp.*, 799 F.3d 236 (3d Cir. 2015).

20 49. Defendant is also required (by the CCRA, the CCPA, and various other states' laws and  
21 regulations) to protect Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII, and further, to handle any breach of the  
22 same in accordance with applicable breach notification statutes.

23 50. In addition to its obligations under federal and state statutes, Defendant owed a duty to  
24 Plaintiff and Class Members whose PII was entrusted to Defendant to exercise reasonable care in  
25 obtaining, retaining, securing, safeguarding, deleting, and protecting the PII in its possession from  
26 being accessed by, acquired by, appropriated by, compromised by, disclosed to, encumbered by,  
27 exfiltrated by, released to, stolen by, misused by, and/or viewed by unauthorized persons. Defendant  
28 owed a duty to Plaintiff and Class Members to provide reasonable security, including consistency with

1 industry standards and requirements, and to ensure that its computer systems and networks, and the  
2 personnel responsible for them, adequately protected the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members.

3 51. Defendant owed a duty to Plaintiff and Class Members whose PII was entrusted to  
4 Defendant to design, maintain, and test its computer systems to ensure that the PII in Defendant's  
5 possession was adequately secured and protected.

6 52. Defendant owed a duty to Plaintiff and Class Members whose PII was entrusted to  
7 Defendant to create and implement reasonable data security practices and procedures to protect the PII  
8 in its possession, including adequately training its employees and others who accessed PII within its  
9 computer systems on how to adequately protect PII.

10 53. Defendant owed a duty to Plaintiff and Class Members whose PII was entrusted to  
11 Defendant to implement processes that would detect a breach on its data security systems in a timely  
12 manner.

13 54. Defendant owed a duty to Plaintiff and Class Members whose PII was entrusted to  
14 Defendant to act upon data security warnings and alerts in a timely fashion.

15 55. Defendant owed a duty to Plaintiff and Class Members whose PII was entrusted to  
16 Defendant to adequately train and supervise its employees to identify data security threats and  
17 weaknesses and defend against them.

18 56. Defendant owed a duty to Plaintiff and Class Members whose PII was entrusted to  
19 Defendant to adequately train and supervise its employees to detect a breach on its data security  
20 systems in a timely manner.

21 57. Defendant owed a duty to Plaintiff and Class Members whose PII was entrusted to  
22 Defendant to disclose if its computer systems and data security practices were inadequate to safeguard  
23 individuals' PII from unauthorized access, acquisition, appropriation, compromise, disclosure,  
24 encumbrance, exfiltration, release, theft, use and/or viewing because such an inadequacy would be a  
25 material fact in the decision to entrust PII with Defendant.

26 58. Defendant owed a duty to Plaintiff and Class Members whose PII was entrusted to  
27 Defendant to disclose in a timely and accurate manner when data breaches occurred.  
28

59. Defendant owed a duty of care to Plaintiff and Class Members because they were foreseeable and probable victims of any inadequate data security practices.

**It is Well Established That Data Breaches Lead to Identity Theft and Other Harms**

60. Plaintiff and Class Members have been injured by the unauthorized access, acquisition, appropriation, disclosure, encumbrance, exfiltration, release, theft, use and/or viewing of their PII as a result of the Data Breach.

61. Each year, identity theft causes tens of billions of dollars of losses to victims in the United States.<sup>2</sup> With access to an individual's PII, criminals can do more than just empty a victim's bank account – they can also commit all manner of fraud, including: opening new financial accounts in the victim's name, taking out loans in the victim's name, obtaining a driver's license or official identification card in the victim's name but with the thief's picture; using the victim's name and Social Security number to obtain government benefits; or, filing a fraudulent tax return using the victim's information. In addition, identity thieves may obtain a job using the victim's Social Security number, rent a house, or receive medical services in the victim's name, and may even give the victim's PII to police during an arrest, resulting in an arrest warrant being issued in the victim's name.<sup>3</sup>

62. PII is such a valuable commodity to identity thieves that once the information has been compromised, criminals often sell and trade the information on the cyber black-market for years.

63. This is not just speculative. As the FTC has reported, if hackers get access to PII, they *will* use it.<sup>4</sup>

64. For instance, with a stolen Social Security number, which is part of the PII compromised in the Data Breach, someone can open financial accounts, get medical care, file

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<sup>2</sup> Facts + Statistics: *Identity Theft and Cybercrime*, Insurance Info. Inst., <https://www.iii.org/fact-statistic/facts-statistics-identity-theft-and-cybercrime> (discussing Javelin Strategy & Research's report "2018 Identity Fraud: Fraud Enters a New Era of Complexity") (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

<sup>3</sup> See Federal Trade Commission, *Warning Signs of Identity Theft*, available at <https://www.identitytheft.gov/Warning-Signs-of-Identity-Theft> (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

<sup>4</sup> Ari Lazarus, *How fast will identity thieves use stolen info?*, Fed. Trade Comm'n (May 24, 2017), <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/blog/2017/05/how-fast-will-identity-thieves-use-stolen-info> (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

1 fraudulent tax returns, commit crimes, and steal benefits.<sup>5</sup> Identity thieves can also use the information  
 2 stolen from Plaintiff and Class Members to qualify for expensive medical care and leave them and  
 3 their contracted health insurers on the hook for massive medical bills.

4 65. Medical identity theft is one of the forms of identity theft that is most common, most  
 5 expensive, and most difficult to prevent. According to Kaiser Health News, “medical-related identity  
 6 theft accounted for 43 percent of all identity thefts reported in the United States in 2013,” which is  
 7 more “than identity thefts involving banking and finance, the government and the military, or  
 8 education.”<sup>6</sup>

9 66. “Medical identity theft is a growing and dangerous crime that leaves its victims with  
 10 little to no recourse for recovery,” reported Pam Dixon, executive director of World Privacy Forum.  
 11 “Victims often experience financial repercussions and worse yet, they frequently discover erroneous  
 12 information has been added to their personal medical files due to the thief’s activities.”<sup>7</sup>

13 67. As indicated by Jim Trainor, second in command at the FBI’s cyber security division:  
 14 “Medical records are a gold mine for criminals – they can access a patient’s name, DOB, Social  
 15 Security and insurance numbers, and even financial information all in one place. Credit cards can be,  
 16 say, five dollars or more where PHI can go from \$20 say up to – we’ve seen \$60 or \$70 [(referring to  
 17 prices on dark web marketplaces)].”<sup>8</sup> A complete identity theft kit that includes health insurance  
 18 credentials may be worth up to \$1,000 on the black market.<sup>9</sup>

19 \_\_\_\_\_  
 20 <sup>5</sup> See, e.g., Christine DiGangi, *5 Ways an Identity Thief Can Use Your Social Security Number*, Nov. 2,  
 21 2017, <https://blog.credit.com/2017/11/5-things-an-identity-thief-can-do-with-your-social-security-number-108597/> (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

22 <sup>6</sup> Michael Ollove, “The Rise of Medical Identity Theft in Healthcare,” Kaiser Health News, Feb. 7,  
 2014, <https://khn.org/news/rise-of-identity-theft/> (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

23 <sup>7</sup> Id.

24 <sup>8</sup> IDEXperts, *You Got It, They Want It: Criminals Targeting Your Private Healthcare Data*, New  
 25 Ponemon Study Shows, <https://www.idexpertscorp.com/knowledge-center/single/you-got-it-they-want-it-criminals-are-targeting-your-private-healthcare-dat> (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

26 <sup>9</sup> *Managing cyber risks in an interconnected world*, PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS: Key findings from  
 27 The Global State of Information Security Survey 2015, <https://www.pwc.com/gx/en/consulting-services/information-security-survey/assets/the-global-state-of-information-security-survey-2015.pdf>  
 28 (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

68. If, moreover, cyber criminals also manage to acquire financial information, credit and debit cards, health insurance information, driver's licenses and passports, there is no limit to the amount of fraud to which Defendant has exposed Plaintiff and Class Members.

69. The United States Government Accountability Office noted in a June 2007 report on Data Breaches ("GAO Report") that identity thieves use identifying data such as Social Security numbers to open financial accounts, receive government benefits and incur charges and credit in a person's name.<sup>10</sup> As the GAO Report states, this type of identity theft is the most harmful because it often takes some time for the victim to become aware of the theft, and the theft can impact the victim's credit rating adversely.

70. In addition, the GAO Report states that victims of identity theft will face "substantial costs and inconveniences repairing damage to their credit records" and their "good name."<sup>11</sup>

71. Identity theft victims are frequently required to spend many hours and large amounts of money repairing the impact to their credit. Identity thieves use stolen PII for a variety of crimes, including credit card fraud, phone or utilities fraud, and bank/finance fraud.

72. There may be a time lag between when sensitive PII is stolen and when it is used. According to the GAO Report:

[L]aw enforcement officials told us that in some cases, *stolen data may be held for up to a year or more before being used to commit identity theft*. Further, once stolen data have been sold or posted on the Web, *fraudulent use of that information may continue for years*. As a result, studies that attempt to measure the harm resulting from data breaches cannot necessarily rule out all future harm.<sup>12</sup>

73. As a result of recent large-scale data breaches, identity thieves and cyber criminals have openly posted stolen credit card numbers, Social Security numbers, and other PII directly on various Internet websites making the information publicly available.

<sup>10</sup> See Personal Information: Data Breaches Are Frequent, but Evidence of Resulting Identity Theft Is Limited; However, the Full Extent Is Unknown (June 2007), United States Government Accountability Office, available at <https://www.gao.gov/new.items/d07737.pdf> (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

<sup>11</sup> *Id.* at 2, 9.

<sup>12</sup> *Id.* at 29 (emphasis added).

74. A study by Experian found that the “average total cost” of medical identity theft is “about \$20,000” per incident, and that a majority of victims of medical identity theft were forced to pay out-of-pocket costs for healthcare they did not receive in order to restore coverage.<sup>13</sup> Indeed, data breaches and identity theft have a crippling effect on individuals and detrimentally impact the entire economy as a whole.

75. Medical computer systems are especially valuable to identity thieves. According to a 2012 Nationwide Insurance report, “[a] stolen medical identity has a \$50 street value – whereas a stolen social security number, on the other hand, only sells for \$1.”<sup>14</sup> In fact, the medical industry has experienced disproportionally higher instances of computer theft than any other industry.

76. Furthermore, identity theft victims must spend countless hours and large amounts of money repairing the impact to their credit.<sup>15</sup>

77. To date, other than providing 12-24 months of credit monitoring and identity protection services, Defendant does not appear to be taking any measures to assist Plaintiff and Class Members other than simply telling them to do the following:

- remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud;
- review account statements;
- monitor credit reports for suspicious activity;
- obtain a copy of free credit reports;
- contact the FTC and/or the state Attorney General’s office;
- enact a security freeze on credit files; and
- create a fraud alert.

<sup>13</sup> See Elinor Mills, Study: Medical identity theft is costly for victims, CNET (Mar. 3, 2010), <https://www.cnet.com/news/study-medical-identity-theft-is-costly-for-victims/> (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

<sup>14</sup> Study: Few Aware of Medical Identity Theft Risk, Claims Journal, <https://www.claimsjournal.com/news/national/2012/06/14/208510.htm> (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

<sup>15</sup> “Guide for Assisting Identity Theft Victims,” Federal Trade Commission, 4 (Sept. 2013), <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf-0119-guide-assisting-id-theft-victims.pdf> (last visited Apr. 30, 2020).

1 None of these recommendations, however, require Defendant to expend any effort to protect Plaintiff's  
2 and Class Members' PII.

3 78. Defendant's failure to adequately protect Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII has  
4 resulted in Plaintiff and Class Members having to undertake these tasks, which require extensive  
5 amounts of time, calls, and, for many of the credit and fraud protection services, payment of money –  
6 while Defendant sits by and does nothing to assist those affected by the Data Breach. Instead, as  
7 Defendant's notice indicates, it is putting the burden on Plaintiff and Class Members to discover  
8 possible fraudulent activity and identity theft.

9 79. Defendant's offer of 12-24 months of identity monitoring and identity protection  
10 services to Plaintiff and Class Members is woefully inadequate. While some harm has begun already,  
11 the worst may be yet to come. There may be a time lag between when harm occurs versus when it is  
12 discovered, and also between when PII is acquired and when it is used. Furthermore, identity theft  
13 monitoring services only alert someone to the fact that they have already been the victim of identity  
14 theft (*i.e.*, fraudulent acquisition and use of another person's PII) – they do not prevent identity theft.<sup>16</sup>  
15 This is especially true for many kinds of medical identity theft, for which most credit monitoring plans  
16 provide little or no monitoring or protection.

17 80. As a direct and proximate result of the Data Breach, Plaintiff and Class Members have  
18 been placed at an imminent, immediate, substantial and continuing increased risk of harm from fraud  
19 and identity theft. Plaintiff and Class Members must now take the time and effort to mitigate the actual  
20 and potential impact of the Data Breach on their everyday lives, including placing “freezes” and  
21 “alerts” with credit reporting agencies, contacting their financial institutions and healthcare providers,  
22 closing or modifying financial accounts, and closely reviewing and monitoring bank accounts, credit  
23 reports, and health insurance account information for unauthorized activity for years to come.

24 81. Plaintiff and the Class Members have suffered, continue to suffer and/or will suffer,  
25 actual harms for which they are entitled to compensation, including:

26 \_\_\_\_\_  
27 <sup>16</sup> See, e.g., Kayleigh Kulp, *Credit Monitoring Services May Not Be Worth the Cost*, Nov. 30, 2017,  
28 <https://www.cnbc.com/2017/11/29/credit-monitoring-services-may-not-be-worth-the-cost.html> (last  
visited Apr. 30, 2020).



- a. Trespass, damage to, and theft of their personal property, including PII;
- b. Improper disclosure of their PII;
- c. The imminent and certainly impending injury flowing from potential fraud and identity theft posed by their PII being placed in the hands of criminals;
- d. The imminent and certainly impending risk of having their PII used against them by spam callers to defraud them;
- e. Damages flowing from Defendant's untimely and inadequate notification of the Data Breach;
- f. Loss of privacy suffered as a result of the Data Breach;
- g. Ascertainable losses in the form of out-of-pocket expenses and the value of their time reasonably expended to remedy or mitigate the effects of the Data Breach;
- h. Ascertainable losses in the form of deprivation of the value of Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII, for which there is a well-established and quantifiable national and international market;
- i. Damage to their credit due to fraudulent use of their PII; and
- j. Increased cost of borrowing, insurance, deposits and other items which are adversely affected by a reduced credit score.

82. Moreover, Plaintiff and Class Members have an interest in ensuring that their PII, which remains in the possession of Defendant, is protected from further breaches by the implementation of security measures and safeguards.

83. Defendant itself acknowledged the harm caused by the Data Breach by offering Plaintiff and Class Members 12-24 months of identity theft monitoring services. 12-24 months of identity theft monitoring is woefully inadequate to protect Plaintiff and Class Members from a lifetime of identity theft risk and does nothing to reimburse Plaintiff and Class Members for the injuries they have already suffered.

#### **PUBLIC BENEFIT**

84. The causes of action herein are not brought solely on behalf of Plaintiff and Class Members, but are also brought on behalf of the general public and are intended to benefit the general



public to the greatest extent permitted – this includes, but is not necessarily limited to, injunctive relief, with the primary purpose of such injunctive relief being to enjoin Defendant’s acts and/or omissions that threaten future injury to the general public.

#### **CLASS ALLEGATIONS**

85. Plaintiff brings this class action lawsuit individually and on behalf of the following proposed Nationwide Class and California Sub-Class under Rule 23 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Nationwide Class: All persons in the United States whose PII was compromised as a result of the Artech Data Breach announced by Artech on or around September 4, 2020.

California Sub-Class: All persons in California whose PII was compromised as a result of the Artech Data Breach announced by Artech on or around September 4, 2020.

86. Plaintiff reserves the right to modify, change, or expand the definition of the Nationwide Class and California Sub-Class, or to propose alternative or additional sub-classes based on discovery and further investigation.

87. The Nationwide Class and the California Sub-Class are collectively referred to throughout this Complaint as the “Class,” unless otherwise specified.

88. Excluded from the Class are the following individuals and/or entities: Defendant and Defendant’s parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, and directors, and any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest; all individuals who make a timely election to be excluded from this proceeding using the designated protocol for opting out; any and all federal, state or local governments, including but not limited to their departments, agencies, divisions, bureaus, boards, sections, groups, counsels and/or subdivisions; and all judges assigned to hear any aspect of this litigation, as well as their immediate family members.

89. **Numerosity**: Plaintiff does not know the exact number of Class Members, but believes the Class comprises thousands of individuals throughout the United States. As such, Class Members are so numerous that joinder of all members is impracticable.

90. **Commonality:** Common questions of law and fact exist and predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class Members. The common questions include:

- a. Whether Defendant engaged in the conduct alleged herein;
- b. Whether Defendant failed to adequately safeguard Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII;
- c. Whether Defendant failed to protect Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII properly and/or as promised;
- d. Whether Defendant's computer system and data security practices used to protect Plaintiff's and the Class Members' PII violated statutory law, common law, or Defendant's duties;
- e. Whether Defendant engaged in unfair, unlawful, or deceptive practices by failing to safeguard Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII;
- f. Whether Defendant violated the consumer protection statutes, data breach notification statutes, and/or state privacy statutes applicable to Plaintiff and Class Members;
- g. Whether Defendant failed to notify Plaintiff and Class Members about the Data Breach as soon as practical and without delay after the Data Breach was discovered;
- h. Whether Defendant acted negligently in failing to safeguard Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII;
- i. Whether Defendant breached implied contractual obligations to protect the confidentiality of Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII, and to have reasonable data security measures;
- j. Whether Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to damages as a result of Defendant's wrongful conduct;
- k. Whether Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to restitution as a result of Defendant's wrongful conduct;
- l. What equitable relief is appropriate to redress Defendant's wrongful conduct;

and

- m. What injunctive relief is appropriate to redress the imminent and currently ongoing harm and risk of future harm faced by Plaintiff and Class Members.

1           91.     **Typicality:** Plaintiff's claims are typical of the claims of the Class Members. Plaintiff  
2 and Class Members were injured through Defendant's uniform misconduct and their legal claims arise  
3 from the same core practices of Defendant.

4           92.     **Adequacy:** Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent and protect the interests of the  
5 Class Members and has retained counsel competent and experienced in complex litigation and class  
6 actions. Plaintiff has no interests antagonistic to those of the Class Members, and there are no defenses  
7 unique to Plaintiff. Plaintiff and Plaintiff's counsel are committed to prosecuting this action vigorously  
8 on behalf of the members of the proposed Class and have the financial resources to do so. Neither  
9 Plaintiff nor Plaintiff's counsel have any interest adverse to those of the other Class Members.

10          93.     **Risks:** The proposed action meets the requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P. 23 because  
11 prosecution of separate actions by individual members of the Class would create a risk of inconsistent  
12 or varying adjudications that would establish incompatible standards for Defendant or would be  
13 dispositive of the interests of members of the proposed Class. Furthermore, Defendant's computer  
14 system still exists, and is still vulnerable to future attacks – one standard of conduct is needed to  
15 ensure the future safety of Defendant's computer system.

16          94.     **Injunctive Relief:** The proposed action meets the requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P.  
17 23(b)(2) because Defendant has acted or has refused to act on grounds generally applicable to the  
18 Class, so that final injunctive relief or corresponding declaratory relief is appropriate as to the Class as  
19 a whole.

20          95.     **Predominance:** The proposed action meets the requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P.  
21 23(b)(3) because questions of law and fact common to the Class predominate over any questions that  
22 may affect only individual Class Members in the proposed Class.

23          96.     **Superiority:** The proposed action also meets the requirements of Fed. R. Civ. P.  
24 23(b)(3) because a class action is superior to all other available methods of fairly and efficiently  
25 adjudicating this dispute. The injury sustained by each Class Member, while meaningful on an  
26 individual basis, is not of such magnitude that it is economically feasible to prosecute individual  
27 actions against Defendant. Even if it were economically feasible, requiring thousands of injured  
28 plaintiffs to file individual suits would impose a crushing burden on the court system and almost

1 certainly lead to inconsistent judgments. By contrast, class treatment will present far fewer  
2 management difficulties and provide the benefits of a single adjudication, economies of scale, and  
3 comprehensive supervision by a single court. Plaintiff anticipates no unusual difficulties in managing  
4 this class action.

5 97. **Certification of Particular Issues:** In the alternative, this action may be maintained as  
6 a class action with respect to particular issues in accordance with Fed. R. Civ. P. 23(c)(4).

7 98. Finally, all members of the proposed Nationwide Class and California Sub-Class are  
8 readily ascertainable. Defendant has access to addresses and other contact information for members of  
9 the Class, which can be used to identify Class Members.

10 **COUNT I**

11 **NEGLIGENCE**

12 99. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

13 100. This count is brought on behalf of the Nationwide Class or, alternatively, the California  
14 Sub-Class.

15 101. Defendant collected and stored the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members.

16 102. Plaintiff and Class Members were required by Defendant to provide their PII to  
17 Defendant as a condition of their registration with Defendant.

18 103. Defendant knew, or should have known, of the risks inherent in collecting and storing  
19 the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members.

20 104. Defendant owed duties of care to Plaintiff and Class Members whose PII had been  
21 entrusted with Defendant.

22 105. Defendant breached its duties to Plaintiff and Class Members by failing to provide fair,  
23 reasonable, or adequate computer systems and data security practices to safeguard Plaintiff's and Class  
24 Members' PII.

25 106. Defendant acted with wanton disregard for the security of Plaintiff's and Class  
26 Members' PII. Defendant knew or should have known that it had inadequate computer systems and  
27 data security practices to safeguard such information, and Defendant knew or should have known that  
28 hackers were attempting to access the PII in computer systems, such as theirs.

1           107. A “special relationship” exists between Defendant and the Plaintiff and Class Members.  
2 Defendant entered into a “special relationship” with Plaintiff and Class Members by placing their PII  
3 in Defendant’s computer system – information that Plaintiff and Class Members had been required to  
4 provide to Defendant.

5           108. Pursuant to the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. § 45), Defendant had a duty  
6 to provide fair and adequate computer systems and data security practices to safeguard Plaintiff’s and  
7 Class Members’ PII.

8           109. Pursuant to California’s Customer Record’s Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.80, *et seq.*),  
9 Defendant had a duty to disclose any breach of Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ PII in the most  
10 expedient time possible and without unreasonable delay.

11           110. Pursuant to California’s Consumer Privacy Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.100, *et seq.*),  
12 Defendant had a duty to provide fair and adequate computer systems and data security practices to  
13 safeguard Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ PII.

14           111. Defendant breached its duties to Plaintiff and Class Members under the Federal Trade  
15 Commission Act (15 U.S.C. § 45) by failing to provide fair, reasonable, or adequate computer systems  
16 and data security practices to safeguard Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ PII.

17           112. Defendant breached its duties to Plaintiff and Class Members under California’s  
18 Customer Record’s Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.80, *et seq.*) by failing to disclose the breach of  
19 Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ PII in the most expedient time possible and without unreasonable  
20 delay.

21           113. Defendant breached its duties to Plaintiff and Class Members under California’s  
22 Consumer Privacy Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.100, *et seq.*) by failing to provide fair, reasonable, or  
23 adequate computer systems and data security practices to safeguard Plaintiff’s and Class Members’  
24 PII.

25           114. Defendant’s failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations constitutes  
26 negligence *per se*.

27           115. But for Defendant’s wrongful and negligent breach of its duties owed to Plaintiff and  
28 Class Members, including those duties under the Federal Trade Commission Act, California’s

1 Customer Record's Act, and California's Consumer Privacy Act, Plaintiff and Class Members would  
2 not have been injured.

3 116. The injury and harm that has occurred is the type of harm the Federal Trade  
4 Commission Act, California's Customer Record's Act, and California's Consumer Privacy Act were  
5 intended to guard against.

6 117. The injury and harm suffered by Plaintiff and Class Members was the reasonably  
7 foreseeable result of Defendant's breach of its duties. Defendant knew or should have known that it  
8 was failing to meet its duties and that its breach would cause Plaintiff and Class Members to suffer the  
9 foreseeable harms associated with the exposure of their PII.

10 118. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's negligent conduct, Plaintiff and Class  
11 Members now face an increased risk of future harm.

12 119. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's negligent conduct, Plaintiff and Class  
13 Members have suffered injury and are entitled to damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

14 **COUNT II**

15 **INVASION OF PRIVACY**

16 120. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

17 121. This count is brought on behalf of the Nationwide Class or, alternatively, the California  
18 Sub-Class.

19 122. California established the right to privacy in Article 1, Section 1 of the California  
20 Constitution.

21 123. The State of California recognizes the tort of Intrusion into Private Affairs, and adopts  
22 the formulation of that tort found in the Restatement (Second) of Torts which states:

23 124. One who intentionally intrudes, physically or otherwise, upon the solitude or seclusion  
24 of another or his private affairs or concerns, is subject to liability to the other for invasion of his  
25 privacy, if the intrusion would be highly offensive to a reasonable person. Restatement (Second) of  
26 Torts § 652B (1977).

1           125. Plaintiff and Class Members had a legitimate and reasonable expectation of privacy  
2 with respect to their PII and were accordingly entitled to the protection of this information against  
3 disclosure to and acquisition by unauthorized third parties.

4           126. Defendant owed a duty to its registrants, including Plaintiff and Class Members, to  
5 keep their PII confidential.

6           127. The unauthorized access, acquisition, appropriation, disclosure, encumbrance,  
7 exfiltration, release, theft, use, and/or viewing of PII, especially the type of information that is the  
8 subject of this action, is highly offensive to a reasonable person.

9           128. The intrusion was into a place or thing, which was private and is entitled to be private.  
10 Plaintiff and Class Members disclosed their PII to Defendant as part of their use of Defendant's  
11 services, but privately, with the intention that the PII would be kept confidential and protected from  
12 unauthorized access, acquisition, appropriation, disclosure, encumbrance, exfiltration, release, theft,  
13 use, and/or viewing. Plaintiff and Class Members were reasonable in their belief that such information  
14 would be kept private and would not be disclosed without their authorization.

15           129. The Data Breach constitutes an intentional interference with Plaintiff's and Class  
16 Members' interest in solitude or seclusion, either as to their persons or as to their private affairs or  
17 concerns, of a kind that would be highly offensive to a reasonable person.

18           130. Defendant acted with a knowing state of mind when it permitted the Data Breach  
19 because it knew its information security practices were inadequate.

20           131. Acting with knowledge, Defendant had notice and knew that its inadequate  
21 cybersecurity practices would cause injury to Plaintiff and Class Members.

22           132. As a proximate result of Defendant's acts and omissions, Plaintiff's and Class  
23 Members' PII was accessed by, acquired by, appropriated by, disclosed to, encumbered by, exfiltrated  
24 by, released to, stolen by, used by, and/or viewed by third parties without authorization, causing  
25 Plaintiff and Class Members to suffer damages.

26           133. Unless and until enjoined, and restrained by order of this Court, Defendant's wrongful  
27 conduct will continue to cause great and irreparable injury to Plaintiff and Class Members in that the  
28

1 PII maintained by Defendant can be accessed by, acquired by, appropriated by, disclosed to,  
2 encumbered by, exfiltrated by, released to, stolen by, used by, and/or viewed by unauthorized persons.

3 134. Plaintiff and Class Members have no adequate remedy at law for the injuries in that a  
4 judgment for monetary damages will not end the invasion of privacy for Plaintiff and Class Members.

5 **COUNT III**

6 **UNJUST ENRICHMENT**

7 135. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

8 136. This count is brought on behalf of all the Nationwide Class or, alternatively, the  
9 California Sub-Class.

10 137. Plaintiff and Class Members conferred a monetary benefit on Defendant. Specifically,  
11 they utilized Defendant's services and in so doing provided Defendant with their PII. In exchange,  
12 Plaintiff and Class Members should have received from Defendant the services that were the subject of  
13 the transaction and have their PII protected with adequate data security.

14 138. Defendant knew that Plaintiff and Class Members conferred a benefit that Defendant  
15 accepted. Defendant profited from these transactions and used the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members  
16 for business purposes.

17 139. The amounts that Defendant profited from Plaintiff's and Class Members' use of its  
18 services were used, in part, to pay for use of Defendant's network and the administrative costs of data  
19 management and security.

20 140. Under the principles of equity and good conscience, Defendant should not be permitted  
21 to retain the money belonging to Plaintiff and Class Members, because Defendant failed to implement  
22 appropriate data management and security measures that are mandated by statutory and common law  
23 as well as industry standards.

24 141. Defendant failed to secure Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII and, therefore, did not  
25 provide full compensation for the benefit Plaintiff and Class Members provided.

26 142. Defendant acquired the PII through inequitable means in that it failed to disclose the  
27 inadequate security practices previously alleged.





1           149. This count is brought on behalf of the Nationwide Class or, alternatively, the California  
2 Sub-Class.

3           150. In light of their special relationship, Defendant has become the guardian of Plaintiff's  
4 and Class Members' PII. Defendant became a fiduciary, created by its undertaking and guardianship  
5 of its registrants' PII, to act primarily for the benefit of its registrants, including Plaintiff and Class  
6 Members. This duty included the obligation to safeguard Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII and to  
7 timely notify them in the event of a data breach.

8           151. Defendant has a fiduciary duty to act for the benefit of Plaintiff and Class Members  
9 upon matters within the scope of its relationship with them. Defendant breached its fiduciary duties  
10 owed to Plaintiff and Class Members by failing to properly encrypt and otherwise protect the integrity  
11 of the systems containing Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII. Defendant further breached its fiduciary  
12 duties owed to Plaintiff and Class Members by failing to timely notify and/or warn Plaintiff and Class  
13 Members of the Data Breach.

14           152. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breaches of its fiduciary duties,  
15 Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered and will suffer injury, including but not limited to (a) actual  
16 identity theft; (b) the loss of the opportunity of how their PII is used; (c) the unauthorized access,  
17 acquisition, appropriation, disclosure, encumbrance, exfiltration, release, theft, use, and/or viewing of  
18 their PII; (d) out-of-pocket expenses associated with the prevention, detection, and recovery from  
19 identity theft and/or unauthorized use of their PII; (e) lost opportunity costs associated with efforts  
20 expended and the loss of productivity addressing and attempting to mitigate the actual and future  
21 consequences of the Data Breach, including but not limited to efforts spent researching how to  
22 prevent, detect, contest, and recover from identity theft; (f) the continued risk to their PII, which  
23 remains in Defendant's possession and is subject to further unauthorized disclosures so long as  
24 Defendant fails to undertake appropriate and adequate measures to protect Plaintiff's and Class  
25 Members' PII in its continued possession; and (g) future costs in terms of time, effort, and money that  
26 will be expended to prevent, detect, contest, and repair the impact of the PII compromised as a result  
27 of the Data Breach for the remainder of the lives of Plaintiff and Class Members.

153. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breach of its fiduciary duty, Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered and will continue to suffer other forms of injury and/or harm, and other economic and non-economic losses.

**COUNT V**

**BREACH OF CONFIDENCE**

154. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

155. This count is brought on behalf of the Nationwide Class or, alternatively, the California Sub-Class.

156. At all times during Plaintiff's and Class Members' interactions with Defendant, Defendant was fully aware of the confidential nature of the PII that Plaintiff and Class Members provided to Defendant.

157. As alleged herein and above, Defendant's relationship with Plaintiff and Class Members was governed by promises and expectations that Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII would be collected, stored, and protected in confidence, and would not be accessed by, acquired by, appropriated by, disclosed to, encumbered by, exfiltrated by, released to, stolen by, used by, and/or viewed by unauthorized third parties.

158. Plaintiff and Class Members provided their respective PII to Defendant with the explicit and implicit understandings that Defendant would protect and not permit the PII to be accessed by, acquired by, appropriated by, disclosed to, encumbered by, exfiltrated by, released to, stolen by, used by, and/or viewed by any unauthorized third parties.

159. Plaintiff and Class Members also provided their PII to Defendant with the explicit and implicit understandings that Defendant would take precautions to protect their PII from unauthorized access, acquisition, appropriation, disclosure, encumbrance, exfiltration, release, theft, use, and/or viewing, such as following basic principles of protecting its networks and data systems.

160. Defendant voluntarily received, in confidence, Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII with the understanding that the PII would not be accessed by, acquired by, appropriated by, disclosed to, encumbered by, exfiltrated by, released to, stolen by, used by, and/or viewed by the public or any unauthorized third parties.

1           161. Due to Defendant's failure to prevent, detect, and avoid the Data Breach from occurring  
2 by, inter alia, not following best information security practices to secure Plaintiff's and Class  
3 Members' PII, Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII was accessed by, acquired by, appropriated by,  
4 disclosed to, encumbered by, exfiltrated by, released to, stolen by, used by, and/or viewed by  
5 unauthorized third parties beyond Plaintiff's and Class Members' confidence, and without their  
6 express permission.

7           162. As a direct and proximate cause of Defendant's actions and/or omissions, Plaintiff and  
8 Class Members have suffered damages.

9           163. But for Defendant's failure to maintain and protect Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII  
10 in violation of the parties' understanding of confidence, their PII would not have been accessed by,  
11 acquired by, appropriated by, disclosed to, encumbered by, exfiltrated by, released to, stolen by, used  
12 by, and/or viewed by unauthorized third parties. Defendant's Data Breach was the direct and legal  
13 cause of the misuse of Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII, as well as the resulting damages.

14           164. The injury and harm Plaintiff and Class Members suffered was the reasonably  
15 foreseeable result of Defendant's unauthorized misuse of Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII.  
16 Defendant knew its computer systems and technologies for accepting and securing Plaintiff's and  
17 Class Members' PII had security and other vulnerabilities that placed Plaintiff's and Class Members'  
18 PII in jeopardy.

19           165. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breaches of confidence, Plaintiff and  
20 Class Members have suffered and will suffer injury, including but not limited to (a) actual identity  
21 theft; (b) the compromise, publication, and/or theft of their PII; (c) out-of-pocket expenses associated  
22 with the prevention, detection, and recovery from identity theft and/or unauthorized use of their PII;  
23 (d) lost opportunity costs associated with effort expended and the loss of productivity addressing and  
24 attempting to mitigate the actual and future consequences of the Data Breach, including but not limited  
25 to efforts spent researching how to prevent, detect, contest, and recover from identity theft; (e) the  
26 continued risk to their PII, which remains in Defendant's possession and is subject to further  
27 unauthorized disclosures so long as Defendant fails to undertake appropriate and adequate measures to  
28 protect Class Members' PII in its continued possession; (f) future costs in terms of time, effort, and

1 money that will be expended as result of the Data Breach for the remainder of the lives of Plaintiff and  
2 Class Members; and (g) the diminished value of Defendant's services they received.

3 166. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's breaches of confidence, Plaintiff and  
4 Class Members have suffered and will continue to suffer other forms of injury and/or harm, and other  
5 economic and non-economic losses.

6 **COUNT VI**

7 **BREACH OF IMPLIED CONTRACT**

8 167. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

9 168. This count is brought on behalf of the Nationwide Class or, alternatively, the California  
10 Sub-Class.

11 169. When Plaintiff and the Class Members provided their PII to Defendant, they entered  
12 into implied contracts in which Defendant agreed to comply with its statutory and common law duties  
13 and industry standards to protect their PII and to timely notify them in the event of a data breach.

14 170. Defendant required its registrants (including Plaintiff and Class Members) to provide  
15 PII in order to register with Defendant.

16 171. Based on the implicit understanding, Plaintiff and Class Members accepted Defendant's  
17 offers and provided Defendant with their PII.

18 172. Plaintiff and Class Members would not have provided their PII to Defendant had they  
19 known that Defendant would not safeguard their PII as promised or provide timely notice of a data  
20 breach.

21 173. Plaintiff and Class Members fully performed their obligations under the implied  
22 contracts with Defendant.

23 174. Defendant breached the implied contracts by failing to safeguard Plaintiff's and Class  
24 Members' PII and failing to provide them with timely and accurate notice of the Data Breach.

25 175. The losses and damages Plaintiff and Class Members sustained (as described above)  
26 were the direct and proximate result of Defendant's breach of the implied contract with Plaintiff and  
27 Class Members.

**COUNT VII**

**BREACH OF IMPLIED COVENANT OF GOOD FAITH AND FAIR DEALING**

176. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

177. This count is brought on behalf of the Nationwide Class or, alternatively, the California Sub-Class.

178. As described above, when Plaintiff and the Class Members provided their PII to Defendant, they entered into implied contracts in which Defendant agreed to comply with its statutory and common law duties and industry standards to protect their PII and to timely notify them in the event of a data breach.

179. While Defendant had discretion in the specifics of how it met the applicable laws and industry standards, this discretion was governed by an implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

180. Defendant breached this implied covenant when it engaged in acts and/or omissions that are declared unfair trade practices by the FTC and state statutes and regulations (including California's UCL), and when it engaged in unlawful practices under other laws. These acts and omissions included: omitting, suppressing, and concealing the material fact of the inadequacy of the privacy and security protections for Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII; and failing to disclose to Plaintiff and Class Members at the time they provided their PII to it that Defendant's data security systems, including training, auditing, and testing of employees, failed to meet applicable legal and industry standards.

181. Plaintiff and Class Members did all or substantially all the significant things that the contract required them to do.

182. Likewise, all conditions required for Defendant's performance were met.

183. Defendant's acts and omissions unfairly interfered with Plaintiff's and Class Members' rights to receive the full benefit of their contracts.

184. Plaintiff and Class Members have been harmed by Defendant's breach of this implied covenant in the many ways described above, including actual identity theft and/or imminent risk of certainly impending and devastating identity theft that exists now that cyber criminals have their PII, and the attendant long-term expense of attempting to mitigate and insure against these risks.

1 185. Defendant is liable for this breach of these implied covenants whether or not it is found  
2 to have breached any specific express contractual term.

3 186. Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to damages, including compensatory damages  
4 and restitution, declaratory and injunctive relief, and attorney fees, costs, and expenses.

5 **COUNT VIII**

6 **VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA'S UNFAIR COMPETITION LAW**

7 **Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code §17200, et seq.**

8 187. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

9 188. This count is brought on behalf of the Nationwide Class or, alternatively, the California  
10 Sub-Class.

11 189. Defendant does business in California and with California residents. Defendant violated  
12 California's Unfair Competition Law ("UCL"), Cal. Bus. Prof. Code § 17200, *et seq.*, by engaging in  
13 unlawful, unfair or fraudulent business acts and practices that constitute acts of "unfair competition" as  
14 defined in the UCL, including, but not limited to, the following:

15 a. by representing and/or promising that it would maintain adequate data privacy  
16 and security practices and procedures to safeguard Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII from  
17 unauthorized access, acquisition, appropriation, disclosure, encumbrance, exfiltration, release, theft,  
18 use, and/or viewing; representing and/or promising that it did and would comply with the requirement  
19 of relevant federal and state laws pertaining to the privacy and security of Plaintiff's and Class  
20 Members' PII; and omitting, suppressing, and concealing the material fact of the inadequacy of the  
21 privacy and security protections for Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII;

22 b. by soliciting and collecting Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII with knowledge  
23 that the information would not be adequately protected; and by storing Plaintiff's and Class Members'  
24 PII in an unsecure electronic environment;

25 c. by violating California's Customer Records Act (Cal. Civ. Code §1798.80, *et*  
26 *seq.*);

27 d. by violating the California Consumer Privacy Act (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.100 *et*  
28 *seq.*); and

e. by violating the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C. §45).

190. These unfair acts and practices were immoral, unethical, oppressive, unscrupulous, unconscionable, and/or substantially injurious to Plaintiff and Class Members. Defendant's practice was also contrary to legislatively declared and public policies that seek to protect personal data and ensure that entities who solicit or are entrusted with personal data utilize appropriate security measures, as reflected by laws like the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45, and the CCRA, Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.81.5.

191. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's unfair and unlawful practices and acts, Plaintiff and Class Members were injured and lost money or property, the loss of their legally protected interest in the confidentiality and privacy of their PII, and additional losses described above.

192. Defendant knew or should have known that its computer systems and data security practices were inadequate to safeguard Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII and that the risk of a data breach or theft was highly likely. Defendant's actions in engaging in the above-named unfair practices and deceptive acts were negligent, knowing and willful, and/or wanton and reckless with respect to the rights of Plaintiff and Class Members.

193. Plaintiff seeks relief under the UCL, including restitution to Class Members of money or property that Plaintiff and Class Members lost, or that Defendant may have acquired, by means of Defendant's deceptive, unlawful, and unfair business practices, declaratory relief, attorney fees, costs and expenses (pursuant to Cal. Code Civ. P. § 1021.5), and injunctive or other equitable relief.

## **COUNT IX**

### **VIOLATIONS OF THE CALIFORNIA CUSTOMER RECORDS ACT**

#### **Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.80, et seq.**

194. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

195. This count is brought on behalf of the Nationwide Class or, alternatively, the California Sub-Class.

196. Section 1798.82 of the California Civil Code requires any "person or business that conducts business in California, and that owns or licenses computerized data that includes personal information" to "disclose any breach of the security of the system following discovery or notification



1 of the breach in the security of the data to any resident of California whose unencrypted personal  
 2 information was, or is reasonably believed to have been, acquired by an unauthorized person.” Under  
 3 section 1798.82, the disclosure “shall be made in the most expedient time possible and without  
 4 unreasonable delay . . . .”

5 197. The CCRA further provides: “Any person or business that maintains computerized data  
 6 that includes personal information that the person or business does not own shall notify the owner or  
 7 licensee of the information of any breach of the security of the data immediately following discovery,  
 8 if the personal information was, or is reasonably believed to have been, acquired by an unauthorized  
 9 person.” Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.82(b).

10 198. Any person or business that is required to issue a security breach notification under the  
 11 CCRA shall meet all of the following requirements:

- 12 a. The security breach notification shall be written in plain language;
- 13 b. The security breach notification shall include, at a minimum, the following  
 14 information:
  - 15 i. The name and contact information of the reporting person or business  
 16 subject to this section;
  - 17 ii. A list of the types of personal information that were or are reasonably  
 18 believed to have been the subject of a breach;
  - 19 iii. If the information is possible to determine at the time the notice is provided,  
 20 then any of the following:
    - 21 1. The date of the breach;
    - 22 2. The estimated date of the breach; or
    - 23 3. The date range within which the breach occurred. The notification shall  
 24 also include the date of the notice.
  - 25 iv. Whether notification was delayed as a result of a law enforcement  
 26 investigation, if that information is possible to determine at the time the  
 27 notice is provided;

- v. A general description of the breach incident, if that information is possible to determine at the time the notice is provided; and
- vi. The toll-free telephone numbers and addresses of the major credit reporting agencies if the breach exposed a Social Security number or a driver's license or California identification card number.

199. The Data Breach described herein constituted a "breach of the security system" of Defendant.

200. As alleged above, Defendant unreasonably delayed (not less than 240 days) informing Plaintiff and Class Members about the Data Breach, affecting their PII, after Defendant knew the Data Breach had occurred.

201. Defendant failed to disclose to Plaintiff and Class Members, without unreasonable delay and in the most expedient time possible, the breach of security of their unencrypted, or not properly and securely encrypted, PII when Defendant knew or reasonably believed such information had been compromised.

202. Defendant's ongoing business interests gave Defendant incentive to conceal the Data Breach from the public to ensure continued revenue.

203. Upon information and belief, no law enforcement agency instructed Defendant that timely notification to Plaintiff and the Class Members would impede its investigation.

204. As a result of Defendant's violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.82, Plaintiff and Class Members were deprived of prompt notice of the Data Breach and were thus prevented from taking appropriate protective measures, such as securing identity theft protection or requesting a credit freeze. These measures could have prevented some of the damages suffered by Plaintiff and Class Members because their stolen information would have had less value to identity thieves.

205. As a result of Defendant's violation of Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.82, Plaintiff and Class Members suffered incrementally increased damages separate and distinct from those simply caused by the Data Breach itself.

206. Plaintiff and Class Members seek all remedies available under Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.84, including, but not limited to the damages suffered by Plaintiff and the other Class Members as alleged above and equitable relief.

207. Defendant's misconduct as alleged herein is fraud under Cal. Civ. Code § 3294(c)(3) in that it was deceit or concealment of a material fact known to the Defendant conducted with the intent on the part of Defendant of depriving Plaintiff and Class Members of "legal rights or otherwise causing injury." In addition, Defendant's misconduct as alleged herein is malice or oppression under Cal. Civ. Code § 3294(c)(1) and (c)(2) in that it was despicable conduct carried on by Defendant with a willful and conscious disregard of the rights or safety of Plaintiff and Class Members and despicable conduct that has subjected Plaintiff and Class Members to hardship in conscious disregard of their rights. As a result, Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to punitive damages against Defendant under Cal. Civ. Code § 3294(a).

### **COUNT X**

#### **VIOLATIONS OF CALIFORNIA'S CONSUMER PRIVACY ACT**

##### **Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.100, et seq.**

208. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

209. This count is brought on behalf of the California Sub-Class.

210. Through the above-detailed conduct, Defendant violated California's Consumer Privacy Act ("CCPA") (Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.100, et seq.) by subjecting the nonencrypted and nonredacted PII of Plaintiff and Class Members to unauthorized access, acquisition, appropriation, disclosure, encumbrance, exfiltration, release, theft, use, and/or viewing as a result of Defendant's violation of its duty to implement and maintain reasonable security procedures and practices appropriate to the nature and protection of that information. Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.150(a).

211. In accordance with Cal. Civ. Code § 1798.150(b), prior to the filing of this Complaint, Plaintiff's counsel served Defendant with notice of these CCPA violations by certified mail, return receipt requested.

212. On behalf of Class Members, Plaintiff seeks injunctive relief in the form of an order enjoining Defendant from continuing to violate the CCPA. If Defendant fails to respond to Plaintiff's

1 notice letter or agree to rectify the violations detailed above, Plaintiff also will seek actual, punitive,  
2 and statutory damages, restitution, attorneys' fees and costs, and any other relief the Court deems  
3 proper as a result of Defendant's CCPA violations.

4 **COUNT XI**

5 **INJUNCTIVE / DECLARATORY RELIEF**

6 213. Plaintiff incorporates the foregoing allegations as if fully set forth herein.

7 214. This count is brought on behalf of all the Nationwide Class or, alternatively, the  
8 California Sub-Class.

9 215. This Count is brought under the federal Declaratory Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §2201.

10 216. As previously alleged, Plaintiff and Class Members entered into an implied contract  
11 that required Defendant to provide adequate security for the PII it collected from Plaintiff and Class  
12 Members.

13 217. Defendant owes a duty of care to Plaintiff and Class Members requiring it to adequately  
14 secure PII.

15 218. Defendant still possess PII regarding Plaintiff and Class Members.

16 219. Since the Data Breach, Defendant has announced few if any changes to its data security  
17 infrastructure, processes or procedures to fix the vulnerabilities in its computer systems and/or security  
18 practices which permitted the Data Breach to occur and, thereby, prevent further attacks.

19 220. Defendant has not satisfied its contractual obligations and legal duties to Plaintiff and  
20 Class Members. In fact, now that Defendant's insufficient data security is known to hackers, the PII in  
21 Defendant's possession is even more vulnerable to cyberattack.

22 221. Actual harm has arisen in the wake of the Data Breach regarding Defendant's  
23 contractual obligations and duties of care to provide security measures to Plaintiff and Class Members.  
24 Further, Plaintiff and Class Members are at risk of additional or further harm due to the exposure of  
25 their PII and Defendant's failure to address the security failings that lead to such exposure.

26 222. There is no reason to believe that Defendant's security measures are any more adequate  
27 now than they were before the Data Breach to meet Defendant's contractual obligations and legal  
28 duties.

223. Plaintiff, therefore, seeks a declaration (1) that Defendant's existing security measures do not comply with its contractual obligations and duties of care to provide adequate security, and (2) that to comply with its contractual obligations and duties of care, Defendant must implement and maintain reasonable security measures, including, but not limited to:

- a. Ordering that Defendant engage third-party security auditors/penetration testers as well as internal security personnel to conduct testing, including simulated attacks, penetration tests, and audits on Defendant's systems on a periodic basis, and ordering Defendant to promptly correct any problems or issues detected by such third-party security auditors;
- b. Ordering that Defendant engage third-party security auditors and internal personnel to run automated security monitoring;
- c. Ordering that Defendant audit, test, and train its security personnel regarding any new or modified procedures;
- d. Ordering that Defendant segment data by, among other things, creating firewalls and access controls so that if one area of Defendant's systems is compromised, hackers cannot gain access to other portions of Defendant's systems;
- e. Ordering that Defendant not transmit PII via unencrypted email;
- f. Ordering that Defendant not store PII in email accounts;
- g. Ordering that Defendant purge, delete, and destroy in a reasonably secure manner customer data not necessary for its provisions of services;
- h. Ordering that Defendant conduct regular computer system scanning and security checks;
- i. Ordering that Defendant routinely and continually conduct internal training and education to inform internal security personnel how to identify and contain a breach when it occurs and what to do in response to a breach; and
- j. Ordering Defendant to meaningfully educate its current, former, and prospective registrants about the threats they face as a result of the loss of their PII to third parties, as well as the steps they must take to protect themselves.

**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

Plaintiff, on behalf of herself and the Class, respectfully requests the Court order relief and enter judgment in their favor and against Artech as follows:

A. An order certifying this action as a class action under Fed. R. Civ. P. 23, defining the Class as requested herein, appointing the undersigned as Class counsel, and finding that Plaintiff is a proper representative of the Class requested herein.

B. Plaintiff requests injunctive and other equitable relief as is necessary to protect the interests of the Class, including (i) an order prohibiting Defendant from engaging in the wrongful and unlawful acts described herein; (ii) requiring Defendant to protect all data collected or received through the course of its business in accordance with the CCRA, other federal, state and local laws, and best practices under industry standards; (iii) requiring Defendant to design, maintain, and test its computer systems to ensure that PII in its possession is adequately secured and protected; (iv) requiring Defendant to disclose any future data breaches in a timely and accurate manner; (v) requiring Defendant to engage third-party security auditors as well as internal security personnel to conduct testing, including simulated attacks, penetration tests, and audits on Defendant's systems on a periodic basis and ordering it to promptly correct any problems or issues detected by these auditors; (vi) requiring Defendant to audit, test, and train its security personnel to run automated security monitoring, aggregating, filtering and reporting on log information in a unified manner; (vii) requiring Defendant to implement multi-factor authentication requirements; (viii) requiring Defendant's employees to change their passwords on a timely and regular basis, consistent with best practices; (ix) requiring Defendant to encrypt all PII; (x) requiring Defendant to audit, test, and train its security personnel regarding any new or modified procedures; (xi) requiring Defendant to segment data by, among other things, creating firewalls and access controls so that if one area of Defendant's network is compromised, hackers cannot gain access to other portions of Defendant's systems; (xii) requiring Defendant to purge, delete, and destroy in a reasonably secure and timely manner PII no longer necessary for the provision of services; (xiii) requiring Defendant to conduct regular computer system scanning and security checks; (xiv) requiring Defendant to routinely and continually conduct internal training and education to inform internal security personnel how to identify and contain a breach when

1 it occurs and what to do in response to a breach; (xv) requiring Defendant to provide lifetime credit  
2 monitoring and identity theft repair services to Class Members; and (xvi) requiring Defendant to  
3 educate all Class Members about the threats they face as a result of the loss of their PII to third parties,  
4 as well as steps Class Members must take to protect themselves.

5 C. A judgment awarding Plaintiff and Class Members appropriate monetary relief,  
6 including actual damages, punitive damages, treble damages, statutory damages, exemplary damages,  
7 equitable relief, restitution, and disgorgement;

8 D. An order that Defendant pay the costs involved in notifying the Class Members about  
9 the judgment and administering the claims process;

10 E. Pre-judgment and post-judgment interest;

11 F. Attorneys' fees, expenses, and the costs of this action; and

12 G. All other and further relief as this Court deems necessary, just, and proper.

13 **JURY DEMAND**

14 Plaintiff demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

15  
16 DATED: October 29, 2020

**GREEN & NOBLIN, P.C.**

17  
18  
19 By: /s/ Robert S. Green  
Robert S. Green

20 James Robert Noblin  
21 Evan M. Sumer  
22 2200 Larkspur Landing Circle, Suite 101  
23 Larkspur, CA 94939  
Telephone: (415) 477-6700  
Facsimile: (415) 477-6710

24 Cornelius P. Dukelow\*  
25 *cdukelow@abingtonlaw.com*  
26 Oklahoma Bar No. 19086  
27 **ABINGTON COLE + ELLERY**  
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5 10205 N. Pennsylvania Ave.  
6 Oklahoma City, OK 73120  
7 Telephone: (405) 235-1560  
8 Facsimile: (405) 239-2112

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*\*Pro Hac Vice* application to be submitted

Counsel for Plaintiff and the Proposed Class



## **EXHIBIT 1**



September 8, 2020



79 1 22908 \*\*\*\*\*AUTO\*\*ALL FOR AADC 940

BRIGID POLING  
235 OCONNOR ST  
MENLO PARK, CA 94025-2632



Re: Notice of Data Breach

Dear Brigid Poling,

Artech, L.L.C. ("Artech") is writing to inform you of an incident that could affect the security of some of your information. This notice provides information about the incident, our response, and resources available to you to help protect your information from possible misuse, should you feel it necessary to do so.

**What Happened?** On January 8, 2020, Artech received a report of unusual activity relating to an employee's Artech user account. We immediately began investigating this report and through that investigation identified ransomware on certain Artech systems. That same day we engaged a leading third-party forensic investigation firm to assess the security of our systems and to confirm the nature and scope of the incident. On January 15, 2020, the investigation determined that an unauthorized actor had access to certain Artech systems between January 5, 2020, and January 8, 2020. Artech undertook a comprehensive review of these systems and determined that some personal information was present in them at the time of the incident. We reviewed this information and our internal records to identify the individuals associated with this information and their contact information for purposes of providing notice. On or around June 25, 2020, we completed this review and determined that some of your personal information was contained in one or more of the involved files.

**What Information Was Involved?** Our investigation determined that at the time of the incident the involved files contained information including your name and Social Security number. Please note that to date we are unaware of any actual or attempted misuse of your personal information as a result of this incident.

**What We Are Doing.** Information privacy and security are among our highest priorities. Artech has strict security measures in place to protect information in our care. Upon learning of this incident, we quickly took steps to confirm the security of our systems and notified law enforcement of the event. We reset passwords for all Artech users, further strengthened our existing technical controls, and implemented additional security measures. We also reviewed our policies and procedures relating to data security and are conducting additional employee training.

As an added precaution, we are also offering you access to 12 months of identity monitoring services through Kroll at no cost to you. We encourage you to activate these services, as we are not able to act on your behalf to do so. More information about these services and instructions on how to activate these services may be found in the enclosed "Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information." Your identity monitoring services include Credit Monitoring, Fraud Consultation, and Identity Theft Restoration.

**What You Can Do.** We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity. You may also activate the free identity monitoring services we are offering and review the enclosed "Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information" to learn more about ways to protect personal information.

**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 contact 1-877-547-0564 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Central Time excluding major U.S. holidays.

Artech takes the privacy and security of the personal information in our care seriously. We sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern this notification may cause you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Eric Szoke', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Eric Szoke  
Artech, L.L.C.



### **Take Advantage of Your Identity Monitoring Services**

To help relieve concerns and restore confidence following this incident, we have secured the services of Kroll to provide identity monitoring at no cost to you for 12 months. Kroll is a global leader in risk mitigation and response, and their team has extensive experience helping people who have sustained a potential exposure of confidential data. Your identity monitoring services include Credit Monitoring, Fraud Consultation, and Identity Theft Restoration.

To Activate:

Visit <https://enroll.idheadquarters.com> to activate and take advantage of your identity monitoring services.

You have until **December 11, 2020** to activate your identity monitoring services.

Membership Number: **AAK029995-P**

### **Services Include:**

#### **Single Bureau Credit Monitoring**

You will receive alerts when there are changes to your credit data—for instance, when a new line of credit is applied for in your name. If you do not recognize the activity, you will have the option to call a Kroll fraud specialist, who will be able to help you determine if it is an indicator of identity theft.

#### **Fraud Consultation**

You have unlimited access to consultation with a Kroll fraud specialist. Support includes showing you the most effective ways to protect your identity, explaining your rights and protections under the law, assistance with fraud alerts, and interpreting how personal information is accessed and used, including investigating suspicious activity that could be tied to an identity theft event.

#### **Identity Theft Restoration**

If you become a victim of identity theft, an experienced Kroll licensed investigator will work on your behalf to resolve related issues. You will have access to a dedicated investigator who understands your issues and can do most of the work for you. Your investigator will be able to dig deep to uncover the scope of the identity theft, and then work to resolve it.

Kroll's activation website is only compatible with the current version or one version earlier of Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Edge.

To receive credit services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file.

### **Monitor Accounts**

We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity. Under U.S. law you are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus. 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 contact the three major credit bureaus directly to request a free copy of your credit report.

You have the right to place a "security freeze" on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization. The security 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 security 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 security freeze on your credit report. Should you wish to place a security freeze, please contact the major consumer reporting agencies listed below:

#### **Experian**

P.O. Box 9554

Allen, TX 75013

1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/freeze/center.html](http://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html)

#### **TransUnion**

P.O. Box 160

Woodlyn, PA 19094

1-888-909-8872

[www.transunion.com/credit-freeze](http://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze)

#### **Equifax**

P.O. Box 105788

Atlanta, GA 30348-5788

1-800-685-1111

[www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

In order to request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Your full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;



3. Date of birth;
4. If you have moved in the past five (5) years, provide the addresses where you have lived over the prior 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, military identification, etc.);
7. If you are a victim of identity theft, include a copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft.

As an alternative to a security freeze, you have the right to place an initial or extended "fraud alert" on your 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 agencies listed below:

#### **Experian**

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/fraud/center.html](http://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html)

#### **TransUnion**

P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016  
1-800-680-7289

[www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts](http://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts)

#### **Equifax**

P.O. Box 105069  
Atlanta, GA 30348  
1-888-766-0008

[www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

#### **Additional Information**

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps you can take to protect yourself by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General.

The Federal Trade Commission can 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 Maryland residents*, the Attorney General can be contacted at 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-528-8662; [www.oag.state.md.us](http://www.oag.state.md.us).

*For North Carolina residents*, the Attorney General can be contacted at 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov). You can obtain information from the Attorney General or the Federal Trade Commission about preventing identity theft.

*For Rhode Island residents*, the Rhode Island Attorney General can be reached at: 150 South Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903; [www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov); 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 108 Rhode Island residents impacted by this incident.

*For New York residents*, the Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; <https://ag.ny.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 agencies 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 [www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\\_cfpb\\_summary\\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf](http://www.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.

## **EXHIBIT 2**

Artech  
Logo/Letterhead

[Name]  
[Address]  
[City, State, Zip]

[DATE]

Re: Notice of Data Breach

Dear [Name]:

Artech, LLC (“Artech”) is writing to inform you of an incident that could affect the security of some of your information. This notice provides information about the incident, our response, and resources available to you to help protect your information from possible misuse, should you feel it necessary to do so.

**What Happened?** On January 8, 2020, Artech received a report of unusual activity relating to an employee’s Artech user account. We immediately began investigating this report and through that investigation identified ransomware on certain Artech systems. That same day we engaged a leading third-party forensic investigation firm to assess the security of our systems and to confirm the nature and scope of the incident. On January 15, 2020, the investigation determined that an unauthorized actor had access to certain Artech systems between January 5, 2020, and January 8, 2020. Artech undertook a comprehensive review of these systems and determined that some personal information was present in them at the time of the incident. We reviewed this information and our internal records to identify the individuals associated with this information and their contact information for purposes of providing notice. On or around June 25, 2020, we completed this review and determined that some of your personal information was contained in one or more of the involved files.

**What Information Was Involved?** Our investigation determined that at the time of the incident the involved files contained information including your name, [variable text - data elements]. Please note that to date we are unaware of any actual or attempted misuse of your personal information as a result of this incident.

**What We Are Doing.** Information privacy and security are among our highest priorities. Artech has strict security measures in place to protect information in our care. Upon learning of this incident, we quickly took steps to confirm the security of our systems and notified law enforcement of the event. We reset passwords for all Artech users, further strengthened our existing technical controls, and implemented additional security measures. We also reviewed our policies and procedures relating to data security and are conducting additional employee training.

As an added precaution, we are also offering you access to [12/24] months of credit monitoring and identity protection services through Kroll at no cost to you. We encourage you to enroll in these services, as we are not able to act on your behalf to do so. More information about these services and instructions on how to enroll may be found in the enclosed “Steps You Can Take to

Protect Your Information.” Your identity monitoring services include Credit Monitoring, Fraud Consultation, and Identity Theft Restoration.

**What You Can Do.** We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity. You may also enroll to receive the free credit monitoring and identity theft protection services we are offering and review the enclosed “Steps You Can Take to Protect Your Information” to learn more about ways to protect personal information.

**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 contact ###-###-####, Monday through Friday, ### a.m. to ### p.m.

Artech takes the privacy and security of the personal information in our care seriously. We sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern this notification may cause you.

Sincerely,

Eric Szoke  
Artech, LLC



## **Steps You Can Take to Protect Your Information**

### **Take Advantage of Your Identity Monitoring Services**

You have been provided with access to the following services from Kroll:

#### **To Enroll:**

Visit <<**IDMonitoringURL**>> to activate and take advantage of your identity monitoring services.

*You have until <<**Date**>> to activate your identity monitoring services.*

Membership Number: <<**Member ID**>>

#### **Services Include:**

##### **Single Bureau Credit Monitoring**

You will receive alerts when there are changes to your credit data—for instance, when a new line of credit is applied for in your name. If you do not recognize the activity, you'll have the option to call a Kroll fraud specialist, who will be able to help you determine if it is an indicator of identity theft.

##### **Fraud Consultation**

You have unlimited access to consultation with a Kroll fraud specialist. Support includes showing you the most effective ways to protect your identity, explaining your rights and protections under the law, assistance with fraud alerts, and interpreting how personal information is accessed and used, including investigating suspicious activity that could be tied to an identity theft event.

##### **Identity Theft Restoration**

If you become a victim of identity theft, an experienced Kroll licensed investigator will work on your behalf to resolve related issues. You will have access to a dedicated investigator who understands your issues and can do most of the work for you. Your investigator will be able to dig deep to uncover the scope of the identity theft, and then work to resolve it.

Kroll's activation website is only compatible with the current version or one version earlier of Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Edge. To receive credit services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file.

### **Monitor Accounts**

We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity. Under U.S. law you are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus. 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 contact the three major credit bureaus directly to request a free copy of your credit report.

You have the right to place a “security freeze” on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization. The security 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 security 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 security freeze on your credit report. Should you wish to place a security freeze, please contact the major consumer reporting agencies listed below:

**Experian**

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/freeze/center.html](http://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html)

**TransUnion**

P.O. Box 160  
Woodlyn, PA 19094  
1-888-909-8872

[www.transunion.com/credit-freeze](http://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze)

**Equifax**

P.O. Box 105788  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788  
1-800-685-1111

[www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

In order to request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Your full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;
3. Date of birth;
4. If you have moved in the past five (5) years, provide the addresses where you have lived over the prior 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, military identification, etc.);
7. If you are a victim of identity theft, include a copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft.

As an alternative to a security freeze, you have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on your 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 agencies listed below:

**Experian**

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/fraud/](http://www.experian.com/fraud/)

**TransUnion**

P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016  
1-800-680-7289

[www.transunion.com/](http://www.transunion.com/)

**Equifax**

P.O. Box 105069  
Atlanta, GA 30348  
1-888-766-0008

[www.equifax.com/personal/](http://www.equifax.com/personal/)

[center.html](#)

[fraud-alerts](#)

[credit-report-services](#)

### **Additional Information**

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps you can take to protect yourself by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General.

The Federal Trade Commission can 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 Maryland residents*, the Attorney General can be contacted at 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-528-8662; [www.oag.state.md.us](http://www.oag.state.md.us).

*For North Carolina residents*, the Attorney General can be contacted at 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov). You can obtain information from the Attorney General or the Federal Trade Commission about preventing identity theft.

*For Rhode Island residents*, the Rhode Island Attorney General can be reached at: 150 South Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903; [www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov); 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 [XX] Rhode Island residents impacted by this incident.

*For New York residents*, the Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341; 1-800-771-7755; <https://ag.ny.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 agencies 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 [www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\\_cfpb\\_summary\\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf](http://www.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.

## **EXHIBIT 3**

## NOTICE OF DATA EVENT

[Date]

Artech, LLC (“Artech”) is posting the following statement to inform individuals of an event that could potentially affect the security of certain information.

**What Happened?** On January 8, 2020, Artech received a report of unusual activity relating to an employee’s Artech user account. Artech immediately began investigating this report and through that investigation identified ransomware on certain Artech systems. That same day Artech engaged a leading third-party forensic investigation firm to assess the security of its systems and to confirm the nature and scope of the incident. On January 15, 2020, the investigation determined that an unauthorized actor had access to certain Artech systems between January 5, 2020, and January 8, 2020. Artech undertook a comprehensive review of these systems and determined that some personal information was present in them at the time of the incident. Artech reviewed this information and its internal records to identify the individuals associated with this information and their contact information for purposes of providing notice. On or around June 25, 2020, we completed this review and determined that personal information relating to certain individuals was contained in one or more of the involved files.

**What Information Was Involved?** The investigation determined that at the time of the incident the involved files may have contained information including name, Social Security number, medical information, health insurance information, financial information, payment card information, driver’s license/state identification number, government issued identification number, passport number, visa number, electronic/digital signature, username and password information. The information varied by individual. To date, Artech is unaware of any actual or attempted misuse of personal information as a result of this incident.

**What Artech Is Doing.** Artech takes this incident and the security of personal information in its care very seriously. Upon learning of this incident, Artech immediately commenced an investigation using external digital forensic specialists, changed system credentials and took steps to secure its systems and assess relevant company systems that may have been impacted by the event. Artech is also working with external digital forensic specialists to enhance existing security processes and protocols.

Individuals who were determined to be potentially impacted by this event will receive written notice of the event by mail if a valid address existed.

**What Can You Do?** Artech encourages individuals to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud and to review account statements for suspicious activity.

Under U.S. law individuals are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus. To order a free credit report, individuals may visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. Individuals may also contact the three major credit bureaus directly to request a free copy of a credit report.

Individuals have the right to place a “security freeze” on a credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in a credit report without express authorization. The security

freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in a person's name without consent. However, be aware that using a security freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in a credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application a person makes regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, a person cannot be charged to place or lift a security freeze on a credit report. Should a person wish to place a security freeze, they may contact the major consumer reporting agencies listed below:

**Experian**

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/freeze/center.html](http://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html)

**TransUnion**

P.O. Box 160  
Woodlyn, PA 19094  
1-888-909-8872

[www.transunion.com/credit-freeze](http://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze)

**Equifax**

P.O. Box 105788  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788  
1-800-685-1111

[www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

In order to request a security freeze, individuals 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. If a person has moved in the past five (5) years, the addresses they have lived over the prior 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, military identification, etc.);
7. If a person is the victim of identity theft, a copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft.

As an alternative to a security freeze, individuals have the right to place an initial or extended "fraud alert" on a 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 an individual is the victim of identity theft, they are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should a person wish to place a fraud alert, they may contact any one of the agencies listed below:

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P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/fraud/center.html](http://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html)

**TransUnion**

P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016  
1-800-680-7289

[www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts](http://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts)

**Equifax**

P.O. Box 105069  
Atlanta, GA 30348  
1-888-766-0008

[www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

Individuals can obtain additional information regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps that can be taken to protect themselves by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or the individual's relevant state Attorney General.

The Federal Trade Commission can 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. Individuals can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Individuals have the right to file a police report if they experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, individuals 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.

***For More Information.*** Artech understands that you may have questions about this incident that are not addressed in this statement. If you have additional questions or would like to confirm if you are affected by this event, please call the dedicated assistance line at ###-###-#### between 8:00 am and 5:30 pm Central Time Monday through Friday, excluding major U.S. holidays.



## **EXHIBIT 4**

## PRESS RELEASE

**Morristown, New Jersey** – Artech, LLC (“Artech”) today announced that it is notifying potentially affected individuals of a recent data security incident that could potentially impact the security of certain personally identifiable information (personal information).

While Artech is unaware of any actual or attempted misuse of personal information as a result of this incident, the company is notifying potentially affected individuals to provide information about the incident and access to resources to protect their information, should they feel it is appropriate to do so. Artech takes this incident and the security of personal information in our care seriously.

***What Happened?*** On January 8, 2020, Artech received a report of unusual activity relating to an employee’s Artech user account. Artech immediately began investigating this report and through that investigation identified ransomware on certain Artech systems. That same day Artech engaged a leading third-party forensic investigation firm to assess the security of its systems and to confirm the nature and scope of the incident. On January 15, 2020, the investigation determined that an unauthorized actor had access to certain Artech systems between January 5, 2020 and January 8, 2020. Artech undertook a comprehensive review of these systems and determined that some personal information was present in them at the time of the incident. Artech reviewed this information and its internal records to identify the individuals associated with this information and their contact information for purposes of providing notice. On or around June 25, 2020, we completed this review and determined that personal information relating to certain individuals was contained in one or more of the involved files.

***What Information Was Involved?*** The investigation determined that at the time of the incident the involved files may have contained information including name, Social Security number, medical information, health insurance information, financial information, payment card information, driver’s license/state identification number, government issued identification number, passport number, visa number, electronic/digital signature, username and password information. The information varied by individual. To date, Artech is unaware of any actual or attempted misuse of personal information as a result of this incident.

***What Artech Is Doing.*** Artech takes this incident and the security of personal information in its care very seriously. Upon learning of this incident, Artech immediately commenced an investigation using external digital forensic specialists, changed system credentials and took steps to secure its systems and assess relevant company systems that may have been impacted by the event. Artech is also working with external digital forensic specialists to enhance existing security processes and protocols.

Individuals who were determined to be potentially impacted by this event will receive written notice of the event by mail if a valid address existed.

***What Can You Do?*** Artech encourages individuals to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud and to review account statements for suspicious activity.

Under U.S. law individuals are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus. To order a free credit report, individuals may visit

[www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. Individuals may also contact the three major credit bureaus directly to request a free copy of a credit report.

Individuals have the right to place a “security freeze” on a credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in a credit report without express authorization. The security freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in a person’s name without consent. However, be aware that using a security freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in a credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application a person makes regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, a person cannot be charged to place or lift a security freeze on a credit report. Should a person wish to place a security freeze, they may contact the major consumer reporting agencies listed below:

**Experian**

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/freeze/center.html](http://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html)

**TransUnion**

P.O. Box 160  
Woodlyn, PA 19094  
1-888-909-8872

[www.transunion.com/credit-freeze](http://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze)

**Equifax**

P.O. Box 105788  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788  
1-800-685-1111

[www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

In order to request a security freeze, individuals 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. If a person has moved in the past five (5) years, the addresses they have lived over the prior 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, military identification, etc.);
7. If a person is the victim of identity theft, a copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft.

As an alternative to a security freeze, individuals have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on a 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 an individual is the victim of identity theft, they are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should a person wish to place a fraud alert, they may contact any one of the agencies listed below:

**Experian**

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/fraud/center.html](http://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html)

**TransUnion**

P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016  
1-800-680-7289

[www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts](http://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts)

**Equifax**

P.O. Box 105069  
Atlanta, GA 30348  
1-888-766-0008

[www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

Individuals can obtain additional information regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps that can be taken to protect themselves by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or the individual's relevant state Attorney General.

The Federal Trade Commission can 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. Individuals can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Individuals have the right to file a police report if they experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, individuals 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.

***For More Information.*** Artech understands that you may have questions about this incident that are not addressed in this statement. If you have additional questions or would like to confirm if you are affected by this event, please call the dedicated assistance line at ###-###-#### between 8:00 am and 5:30 pm Central Time Monday through Friday excluding major U.S. holidays.

CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

BRIGID POLING

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff San Mateo  
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)

Robert S. Green, GREEN & NOBLIN, P.C., 2200 Larkspur Landing Circle, Suite 101  
Larkspur, CA, 94939, (415) 477-6700

DEFENDANTS

ARTECH L.L.C.

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant  
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF  
THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff

☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant

☐ 3 Federal Question  
(U.S. Government Not a Party)

☒ 4 Diversity  
(Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

	PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Citizen of Another State	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT	TORTS	FORFEITURE/PENALTY	BANKRUPTCY	OTHER STATUTES
<div>110 Insurance</div> <div>120 Marine</div> <div>130 Miller Act</div> <div>140 Negotiable Instrument</div> <div>150 Recovery of Overpayment Of Veteran's Benefits</div> <div>151 Medicare Act</div> <div>152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)</div> <div>153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits</div> <div>160 Stockholders' Suits</div> <div>190 Other Contract</div> <div>195 Contract Product Liability</div> <div>196 Franchise</div>	<div><div>PERSONAL INJURY</div><div><div>310 Airplane</div><div>315 Airplane Product Liability</div><div>320 Assault, Libel &amp; Slander</div><div>330 Federal Employers' Liability</div><div>340 Marine</div><div>345 Marine Product Liability</div><div>350 Motor Vehicle</div><div>355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability</div><div>360 Other Personal Injury</div><div>362 Personal Injury -Medical Malpractice</div></div><div>PERSONAL INJURY</div><div><div>365 Personal Injury – Product Liability</div><div>367 Health Care/ Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability</div><div>368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability</div></div><div>PERSONAL PROPERTY</div><div><div>370 Other Fraud</div><div>371 Truth in Lending</div><div><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 380 Other Personal Property Damage</div><div>385 Property Damage Product Liability</div></div><div>CIVIL RIGHTS</div><div><div>440 Other Civil Rights</div><div>441 Voting</div><div>442 Employment</div><div>443 Housing/ Accommodations</div><div>445 Amer. w/Disabilities– Employment</div><div>446 Amer. w/Disabilities–Other</div><div>448 Education</div></div><div>PRISONER PETITIONS</div><div><div>HABEAS CORPUS</div><div><div>463 Alien Detainee</div><div>510 Motions to Vacate Sentence</div><div>530 General</div><div>535 Death Penalty</div></div><div>OTHER</div><div><div>540 Mandamus &amp; Other</div><div>550 Civil Rights</div><div>555 Prison Condition</div><div>560 Civil Detainee– Conditions of Confinement</div></div></div></div>	<div>625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC § 881</div> <div>690 Other</div> <div>LABOR</div> <div><div>710 Fair Labor Standards Act</div><div>720 Labor/Management Relations</div><div>740 Railway Labor Act</div><div>751 Family and Medical Leave Act</div><div>790 Other Labor Litigation</div><div>791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act</div></div> <div>IMMIGRATION</div> <div><div>462 Naturalization Application</div><div>465 Other Immigration Actions</div></div>	<div>422 Appeal 28 USC § 158</div> <div>423 Withdrawal 28 USC § 157</div> <div>PROPERTY RIGHTS</div> <div><div>820 Copyrights</div><div>830 Patent</div><div>835 Patent–Abbreviated New Drug Application</div><div>840 Trademark</div><div>880 Defend Trade Secrets Act of 2016</div></div> <div>SOCIAL SECURITY</div> <div><div>861 HIA (1395ff)</div><div>862 Black Lung (923)</div><div>863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))</div><div>864 SSID Title XVI</div><div>865 RSI (405(g))</div></div> <div>FEDERAL TAX SUITS</div> <div><div>870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)</div><div>871 IRS–Third Party 26 USC § 7609</div></div>	<div>375 False Claims Act</div> <div>376 Qui Tam (31 USC § 3729(a))</div> <div>400 State Reapportionment</div> <div>410 Antitrust</div> <div>430 Banks and Banking</div> <div>450 Commerce</div> <div>460 Deportation</div> <div>470 Racketeer Influenced &amp; Corrupt Organizations</div> <div>480 Consumer Credit</div> <div>485 Telephone Consumer Protection Act</div> <div>490 Cable/Sat TV</div> <div>850 Securities/Commodities/ Exchange</div> <div>890 Other Statutory Actions</div> <div>891 Agricultural Acts</div> <div>893 Environmental Matters</div> <div>895 Freedom of Information Act</div> <div>896 Arbitration</div> <div>899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision</div> <div>950 Constitutionality of State Statutes</div>

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

☒ 1 Original Proceeding

☐ 2 Removed from State Court

☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court

☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened

☐ 5 Transferred from Another District (specify)

☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation–Transfer

☐ 8 Multidistrict Litigation–Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):

28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) because the amount in controversy exceeds \$5,000,000

Brief description of cause:

Data breach involving Plaintiff's PII on Defendant's computer system

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

☒ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, Fed. R. Civ. P.

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:  
JURY DEMAND: ☒ Yes ☐ No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S), IF ANY (See instructions):

JUDGE

DOCKET NUMBER

IX. DIVISIONAL ASSIGNMENT (Civil Local Rule 3-2)

(Place an "X" in One Box Only)

☒ SAN FRANCISCO/OAKLAND

☐ SAN JOSE

☐ EUREKA-MCKINLEYVILLE

DATE 10/29/2020

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD /s/ Robert S. Green

Print

Save As...

Reset

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR ATTORNEYS COMPLETING CIVIL COVER SHEET FORM JS-CAND 44

**Authority For Civil Cover Sheet.** The JS-CAND 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replaces nor supplements the filings and service of pleading or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved in its original form by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the Clerk of Court to initiate the civil docket sheet. Consequently, a civil cover sheet is submitted to the Clerk of Court for each civil complaint filed. The attorney filing a case should complete the form as follows:

- I. a) Plaintiffs-Defendants.** Enter names (last, first, middle initial) of plaintiff and defendant. If the plaintiff or defendant is a government agency, use only the full name or standard abbreviations. If the plaintiff or defendant is an official within a government agency, identify first the agency and then the official, giving both name and title.
  - b) County of Residence.** For each civil case filed, except U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county where the first listed plaintiff resides at the time of filing. In U.S. plaintiff cases, enter the name of the county in which the first listed defendant resides at the time of filing. (NOTE: In land condemnation cases, the county of residence of the “defendant” is the location of the tract of land involved.)
  - c) Attorneys.** Enter the firm name, address, telephone number, and attorney of record. If there are several attorneys, list them on an attachment, noting in this section “(see attachment).”
- II. Jurisdiction.** The basis of jurisdiction is set forth under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 8(a), which requires that jurisdictions be shown in pleadings. Place an “X” in one of the boxes. If there is more than one basis of jurisdiction, precedence is given in the order shown below.
- (1) United States plaintiff. Jurisdiction based on 28 USC §§ 1345 and 1348. Suits by agencies and officers of the United States are included here.
  - (2) United States defendant. When the plaintiff is suing the United States, its officers or agencies, place an “X” in this box.
  - (3) Federal question. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1331, where jurisdiction arises under the Constitution of the United States, an amendment to the Constitution, an act of Congress or a treaty of the United States. In cases where the U.S. is a party, the U.S. plaintiff or defendant code takes precedence, and box 1 or 2 should be marked.
  - (4) Diversity of citizenship. This refers to suits under 28 USC § 1332, where parties are citizens of different states. When Box 4 is checked, the citizenship of the different parties must be checked. (See Section III below; **NOTE: federal question actions take precedence over diversity cases.**)
- III. Residence (citizenship) of Principal Parties.** This section of the JS-CAND 44 is to be completed if diversity of citizenship was indicated above. Mark this section for each principal party.
- IV. Nature of Suit.** Place an “X” in the appropriate box. If the nature of suit cannot be determined, be sure the cause of action, in Section VI below, is sufficient to enable the deputy clerk or the statistical clerk(s) in the Administrative Office to determine the nature of suit. If the cause fits more than one nature of suit, select the most definitive.
- V. Origin.** Place an “X” in one of the six boxes.
- (1) Original Proceedings. Cases originating in the United States district courts.
  - (2) Removed from State Court. Proceedings initiated in state courts may be removed to the district courts under Title 28 USC § 1441. When the petition for removal is granted, check this box.
  - (3) Remanded from Appellate Court. Check this box for cases remanded to the district court for further action. Use the date of remand as the filing date.
  - (4) Reinstated or Reopened. Check this box for cases reinstated or reopened in the district court. Use the reopening date as the filing date.
  - (5) Transferred from Another District. For cases transferred under Title 28 USC § 1404(a). Do not use this for within district transfers or multidistrict litigation transfers.
  - (6) Multidistrict Litigation Transfer. Check this box when a multidistrict case is transferred into the district under authority of Title 28 USC § 1407. When this box is checked, do not check (5) above.
  - (8) Multidistrict Litigation Direct File. Check this box when a multidistrict litigation case is filed in the same district as the Master MDL docket. Please note that there is no Origin Code 7. Origin Code 7 was used for historical records and is no longer relevant due to changes in statute.
- VI. Cause of Action.** Report the civil statute directly related to the cause of action and give a brief description of the cause. **Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity.** Example: U.S. Civil Statute: 47 USC § 553. Brief Description: Unauthorized reception of cable service.
- VII. Requested in Complaint.** Class Action. Place an “X” in this box if you are filing a class action under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23. Demand. In this space enter the actual dollar amount being demanded or indicate other demand, such as a preliminary injunction. Jury Demand. Check the appropriate box to indicate whether or not a jury is being demanded.
- VIII. Related Cases.** This section of the JS-CAND 44 is used to identify related pending cases, if any. If there are related pending cases, insert the docket numbers and the corresponding judge names for such cases.
- IX. Divisional Assignment.** If the Nature of Suit is under Property Rights or Prisoner Petitions or the matter is a Securities Class Action, leave this section blank. For all other cases, identify the divisional venue according to Civil Local Rule 3-2: “the county in which a substantial part of the events or omissions which give rise to the claim occurred or in which a substantial part of the property that is the subject of the action is situated.”

**Date and Attorney Signature.** Date and sign the civil cover sheet.

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This complaint is part of ClassAction.org's searchable class action lawsuit database and can be found in this post: [Artech Hit with Class Action Over Three-Day January 2020 Data Breach](#)

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