

## Friedman & Perry, CPA's

Processing Center • P.O. BOX 141578 • Austin, TX 78714



00592  
JOHN Q. SAMPLE  
1234 MAIN STREET  
ANYTOWN US 12345-6789

March 9, 2017

### NOTICE OF DATA BREACH

Dear John Sample:

We are writing to provide you with information about a data incident involving Friedman & Perry, CPA's.

#### **What Happened?**

On February 6, 2017, we learned that some clients had received notification letters from either the IRS or the FTB, regarding an attempted filing of their 2016 tax returns. Knowing that neither they nor we filed the returns, we immediately began an investigation into the matter (specifically, whether the breach was from a third party or our computers). That same day we contacted our IT consultant, we ensured that all system passwords were changed and user information was secure, and we started running scans and reviewing our systems to identify any malicious malware on our computers. None was found. We then hired a specialized forensic IT firm for additional investigation.

On February 16, 2017, the specialized forensic IT firm determined that hackers had gained unauthorized access to our system from a foreign IP address. Through investigation we have discovered that the unauthorized access occurred through Remote Desktop Protocol between June 15, 2016 and January 30, 2017.

#### **What Information Was Involved?**

If you are an individual, this information may have included your: name, date of birth, telephone number(s), address, Social Security number, employment (W-2) information, 1099 information (including account number if provided to us), and direct deposit bank account information (account number and routing information) if provided to us.

If you are an entity, this information may have included your: company name, federal employer identification number, address, telephone number; employee and/or 1099-recipient information (including account number if provided to us); and partner, shareholder/officer or beneficiary names, addresses, and Social Security numbers.

#### **What We Are Doing.**

In addition to the steps outlined above, we notified the FBI, the IRS, the FTB, all three credit bureaus, applicable state agencies, and we are reviewing office policies and procedures to ensure all security measures are taken to avoid such an incident from occurring again. In this endeavor, we hired IT security experts and rebuilt our system with a new router, hard drives and a new server to eliminate any possibility of malicious remnants being possibly installed on our system. Lastly, we are working with law enforcement in their investigation of the criminals.

#### **What You Can Do.**

Given the nature of the information potentially exposed, we strongly recommend the following steps be taken:



1. Change all bank account numbers that you have provided to us, or at a minimum remain vigilant by reviewing account statements. These would include direct deposit and electronic fund transfer account details or scanned copies of bank statements and form 1099's.
2. Establish and monitor free 90 day fraud alerts with the three credit reporting bureaus. Their telephone numbers and websites are:

<p>Equifax  P.O. Box 740241  Atlanta, GA 30374  1-888-766-0008  <a href="https://www.alerts.equifax.com/AutoFraudOnline/jsp/fraudAlert.jsp">https://www.alerts.equifax.com/AutoFraudOnline/jsp/fraudAlert.jsp</a></p>	<p>Experian  P.O. Box 2104  Allen, TX 75013  1-888-397-3742  <a href="https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html">https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html</a></p>	<p>TransUnion  P.O. Box 2000  Chester, PA 19022  1-800-680-7289  <a href="http://www.transunion.com/fraud-victim-resource/place-fraud-alert">http://www.transunion.com/fraud-victim-resource/place-fraud-alert</a></p>
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3. Consider placing a credit freeze on your accounts which will make it more difficult for someone to open an account. For more information: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0497-credit-freeze-faqs>
4. If you become a victim of identity theft, file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at <https://identitytheft.gov>. The FTC also provides detailed and specific information about identity theft at their website, which we recommend you review.

Lastly, you are entitled to a free credit report every year from each of these agencies at: [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)

**Next Step of Identity Protection.**

*As an added precaution*, we have arranged to have AllClear ID protect your identity for 12 months at no cost to you. Both of the following identity protection services start on the date of this notice and you can use them at any time during the next 12 months.

AllClear Identity Repair: This service is automatically available to you with no enrollment required. If a problem arises, simply call 1-855-725-5770 and a dedicated investigator will help recover financial losses, restore your credit and make sure your identity is returned to its proper condition.

AllClear Credit Monitoring: This service offers additional layers of protection including credit monitoring and a \$1 million identity theft insurance policy. For a child under 18 years old, AllClear ID ChildScan identifies acts of credit, criminal, medical or employment fraud against children by searching thousands of public databases for use of your child's information. To use this service, you will need to provide your personal information to AllClear ID. You may sign up online at [enroll.allclearid.com](http://enroll.allclearid.com) or by phone by calling 1-855-725-5770 using the following redemption code: Redemption Code.

Please note: Additional steps may be required by you in order to activate your phone alerts and monitoring options.

**For More Information.**

Protecting your information is incredibly important to us, as is addressing this incident with the information and assistance you may need. If you have any questions or concerns, please call at 1-855-725-5770, or write us at 39560 Stevenson Place, Suite 112, Fremont, CA 94539.

Sincerely,

Friedman & Perry, CPA's

## **Further State Specific Information about Identity Theft Protection**

We recommend you remain vigilant with respect to reviewing your account statements and credit reports, and promptly report any suspicious activity or suspected identity theft to us and to the proper law enforcement authorities, including local law enforcement, your state's attorney general and/or the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"). You may contact the FTC or your state's regulatory authority to obtain additional information about avoiding identity theft.

**Federal Trade Commission**, Consumer Response Center  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft)

**For residents of Maryland:** You may also obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the Maryland Office of the Attorney General:

**Maryland Office of the Attorney General**, Consumer Protection Division  
200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023, [www.oag.state.md.us](http://www.oag.state.md.us)

**For residents of Massachusetts:** You also have the right to obtain a police report.

**For residents of North Carolina:** You may also obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office:

**North Carolina Attorney General's Office**, Consumer Protection Division  
9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, 1-877-5-NO-SCAM, [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov)

**Fraud Alerts:** There are also two types of fraud alerts that you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud: an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for at least 90 days. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft with the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by calling the toll-free fraud number of any of the three national credit reporting agencies listed below.

Equifax: 1-888-766-0008, [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
Experian: 1-888-397-3742, [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289, [fraud.transunion.com](http://fraud.transunion.com)

**Credit Freezes (for Non-Massachusetts Residents):** You may have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate a freeze. A credit freeze is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a credit freeze, potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a credit freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit. In addition, you may incur fees to place, lift and/or remove a credit freeze. Credit freeze laws vary from state to state. The cost of placing, temporarily lifting, and removing a credit freeze also varies by state, generally \$5 to \$20 per action at each credit reporting company. *Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a credit freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company.* Since the instructions for how to establish a credit freeze differ from state to state, please contact the three major credit reporting companies as specified below to find out more information:

Equifax: P.O. Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
Experian: P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
TransUnion LLC: P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA, 19022-2000, [freeze.transunion.com](http://freeze.transunion.com)

You can obtain more information about fraud alerts and credit freezes by contacting the FTC or one of the national credit reporting agencies listed above.





## AllClear Identity Repair Terms of Use

If you become a victim of fraud using your personal information without authorization, AllClear ID will help recover your financial losses and restore your identity. Benefits include:

- 12 months of coverage with no enrollment required.
- No cost to you — ever. AllClear Identity Repair is paid for by the participating Company.

### **Services Provided**

If you suspect identity theft, simply call AllClear ID to file a claim. AllClear ID will provide appropriate and necessary remediation services (“Services”) to help restore the compromised accounts and your identity to the state prior to the incident of fraud. Services are determined at the sole discretion of AllClear ID and are subject to the terms and conditions found on the AllClear ID website. AllClear Identity Repair is not an insurance policy, and AllClear ID will not make payments or reimbursements to you for any financial loss, liabilities or expenses you incur.

### **Coverage Period**

Service is automatically available to you with no enrollment required for 12 months from the date of the breach incident notification you received from Company (the “Coverage Period”). Fraud Events (each, an “Event”) that were discovered prior to your Coverage Period are not covered by AllClear Identity Repair services.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible for Services under AllClear Identity Repair coverage, you must fully comply, without limitations, with your obligations under the terms herein, you must be a citizen or legal resident eighteen (18) years of age or older, and have a valid U.S. Social Security number. Minors under eighteen (18) years of age may be eligible, but must be sponsored by a parent or guardian. The Services cover only you and your personal financial and medical accounts that are directly associated with your valid U.S. Social Security number, including but not limited to credit card, bank, or other financial accounts and/or medical accounts.

### **How to File a Claim**

If you become a victim of fraud covered by the AllClear Identity Repair services, you must:

- Notify AllClear ID by calling 1.855.434.8077 to report the fraud prior to expiration of your Coverage Period;
- Provide proof of eligibility for AllClear Identity Repair by providing the redemption code on the notification letter you received from the sponsor Company;
- Fully cooperate and be truthful with AllClear ID about the Event and agree to execute any documents AllClear ID may reasonably require; and
- Fully cooperate with AllClear ID in any remediation process, including, but not limited to, providing AllClear ID with copies of all available investigation files or reports from any institution, including, but not limited to, credit institutions or law enforcement agencies, relating to the alleged theft.

### **Coverage under AllClear Identity Repair Does Not Apply to the Following:**

Any expense, damage or loss:

- Due to
  - Any transactions on your financial accounts made by authorized users, even if acting without your knowledge, or
  - Any act of theft, deceit, collusion, dishonesty or criminal act by you or any person acting in concert with you, or by any of your authorized representatives, whether acting alone or in collusion with you or others (collectively, your “Misrepresentation”);
- Incurred by you from an Event that did not occur during your coverage period; or
- In connection with an Event that you fail to report to AllClear ID prior to the expiration of your AllClear Identity Repair coverage period.

### **Other Exclusions:**

- AllClear ID will not pay or be obligated for any costs or expenses other than as described herein, including without limitation fees of any service providers not retained by AllClear ID; AllClear ID reserves the right to investigate any asserted claim to determine its validity.
- AllClear ID is not an insurance company, and AllClear Identity Repair is not an insurance policy; AllClear ID will not make payments or reimbursements to you for any loss or liability you may incur.
- AllClear ID is not a credit repair organization, is not a credit counseling service, and does not promise to help you improve your credit history or rating beyond resolving incidents of fraud.
- AllClear ID reserves the right to reasonably investigate any asserted claim to determine its validity. All recipients of AllClear Identity Repair coverage are expected to protect their personal information in a reasonable way at all times. Accordingly, recipients will not deliberately or recklessly disclose or publish their Social Security number or any other personal information to those who would reasonably be expected to improperly use or disclose that Personal Information.

### **Opt-out Policy**

If for any reason you wish to have your information removed from the eligibility database for AllClear Identity Repair, please contact AllClear ID:

<b>E-mail</b> support@allclearid.com	<b>Mail</b> AllClear ID, Inc. 823 Congress Avenue Suite 300 Austin, Texas 78701	<b>Phone</b> 1.855.434.8077
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## Friedman & Perry, CPA's

Processing Center • P.O. BOX 141578 • Austin, TX 78714



00864  
TO THE ESTATE OF JOHN Q. SAMPLE  
1234 MAIN STREET  
ANYTOWN US 12345-6789

March 9, 2017

### NOTICE OF DATA BREACH

To the Estate of John Sample:

We are writing to provide you with information about a data incident involving Friedman & Perry, CPA's.

#### **What Happened?**

On February 6, 2017, we learned that some clients had received notification letters from either the IRS or the FTB, regarding an attempted filing of their 2016 tax returns. Knowing that neither they nor we filed the returns, we immediately began an investigation into the matter (specifically, whether the breach was from a third party or our computers). That same day we contacted our IT consultant, we ensured that all system passwords were changed and user information was secure, and we started running scans and reviewing our systems to identify any malicious malware on our computers. None was found. We then hired a specialized forensic IT firm for additional investigation.

On February 16, 2017, the specialized forensic IT firm determined that hackers had gained unauthorized access to our system from a foreign IP address. Through investigation we have discovered that the unauthorized access occurred through Remote Desktop Protocol between June 15, 2016 and January 30, 2017.

#### **What Information Was Involved?**

If you are an individual, this information may have included your: name, date of birth, telephone number(s), address, Social Security number, employment (W-2) information, 1099 information (including account number if provided to us), and direct deposit bank account information (account number and routing information) if provided to us.

If you are an entity, this information may have included your: company name, federal employer identification number, address, telephone number; employee and/or 1099-recipient information (including account number if provided to us); and partner, shareholder/officer or beneficiary names, addresses, and Social Security numbers.

#### **What We Are Doing.**

In addition to the steps outlined above, we notified the FBI, the IRS, the FTB, all three credit bureaus, applicable state agencies, and we are reviewing office policies and procedures to ensure all security measures are taken to avoid such an incident from occurring again. In this endeavor, we hired IT security experts and rebuilt our system with a new router, hard drives and a new server to eliminate any possibility of malicious remnants being possibly installed on our system. Lastly, we are working with law enforcement in their investigation of the criminals.

#### **What You Can Do.**

Given the nature of the information potentially exposed, we strongly recommend the following steps be taken:



1. Change all bank account numbers that you have provided to us, or at a minimum remain vigilant by reviewing account statements. These would include direct deposit and electronic fund transfer account details or scanned copies of bank statements and form 1099's.
2. Establish and monitor free 90 day fraud alerts with the three credit reporting bureaus. Their telephone numbers and websites are:

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3. Consider placing a credit freeze on your accounts which will make it more difficult for someone to open an account. For more information: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0497-credit-freeze-faqs>
4. If you become a victim of identity theft, file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at <https://identitytheft.gov>. The FTC also provides detailed and specific information about identity theft at their website, which we recommend you review.

Lastly, you are entitled to a free credit report every year from each of these agencies at: [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)

**Next Step of Identity Protection.**

*As an added precaution*, we have arranged to have AllClear ID protect your identity for 12 months at no cost to you. Both of the following identity protection services start on the date of this notice and you can use them at any time during the next 12 months.

AllClear Identity Repair: This service is automatically available to you with no enrollment required. If a problem arises, simply call 1-855-725-5770 and a dedicated investigator will help recover financial losses, restore your credit and make sure your identity is returned to its proper condition.

AllClear Credit Monitoring: This service offers additional layers of protection including credit monitoring and a \$1 million identity theft insurance policy. For a child under 18 years old, AllClear ID ChildScan identifies acts of credit, criminal, medical or employment fraud against children by searching thousands of public databases for use of your child's information. To use this service, you will need to provide your personal information to AllClear ID. You may sign up online at [enroll.allclearid.com](http://enroll.allclearid.com) or by phone by calling 1-855-725-5770 using the following redemption code: Redemption Code.

Please note: Additional steps may be required by you in order to activate your phone alerts and monitoring options.

**For More Information.**

Protecting your information is incredibly important to us, as is addressing this incident with the information and assistance you may need. If you have any questions or concerns, please call at 1-855-725-5770, or write us at 39560 Stevenson Place, Suite 112, Fremont, CA 94539.

Sincerely,

Friedman & Perry, CPA's

## **Further State Specific Information about Identity Theft Protection**

We recommend you remain vigilant with respect to reviewing your account statements and credit reports, and promptly report any suspicious activity or suspected identity theft to us and to the proper law enforcement authorities, including local law enforcement, your state's attorney general and/or the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"). You may contact the FTC or your state's regulatory authority to obtain additional information about avoiding identity theft.

**Federal Trade Commission**, Consumer Response Center  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft)

**For residents of Maryland:** You may also obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the Maryland Office of the Attorney General:

**Maryland Office of the Attorney General**, Consumer Protection Division  
200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023, [www.oag.state.md.us](http://www.oag.state.md.us)

**For residents of Massachusetts:** You also have the right to obtain a police report.

**For residents of North Carolina:** You may also obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office:

**North Carolina Attorney General's Office**, Consumer Protection Division  
9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, 1-877-5-NO-SCAM, [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov)

**Fraud Alerts:** There are also two types of fraud alerts that you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud: an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for at least 90 days. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft with the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by calling the toll-free fraud number of any of the three national credit reporting agencies listed below.

Equifax: 1-888-766-0008, [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
Experian: 1-888-397-3742, [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289, [fraud.transunion.com](http://fraud.transunion.com)

**Credit Freezes (for Non-Massachusetts Residents):** You may have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate a freeze. A credit freeze is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a credit freeze, potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a credit freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit. In addition, you may incur fees to place, lift and/or remove a credit freeze. Credit freeze laws vary from state to state. The cost of placing, temporarily lifting, and removing a credit freeze also varies by state, generally \$5 to \$20 per action at each credit reporting company. *Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a credit freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company.* Since the instructions for how to establish a credit freeze differ from state to state, please contact the three major credit reporting companies as specified below to find out more information:

Equifax: P.O. Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
Experian: P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
TransUnion LLC: P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA, 19022-2000, [freeze.transunion.com](http://freeze.transunion.com)

You can obtain more information about fraud alerts and credit freezes by contacting the FTC or one of the national credit reporting agencies listed above.





## AllClear Identity Repair Terms of Use

If you become a victim of fraud using your personal information without authorization, AllClear ID will help recover your financial losses and restore your identity. Benefits include:

- 12 months of coverage with no enrollment required.
- No cost to you — ever. AllClear Identity Repair is paid for by the participating Company.

### **Services Provided**

If you suspect identity theft, simply call AllClear ID to file a claim. AllClear ID will provide appropriate and necessary remediation services (“Services”) to help restore the compromised accounts and your identity to the state prior to the incident of fraud. Services are determined at the sole discretion of AllClear ID and are subject to the terms and conditions found on the AllClear ID website. AllClear Identity Repair is not an insurance policy, and AllClear ID will not make payments or reimbursements to you for any financial loss, liabilities or expenses you incur.

### **Coverage Period**

Service is automatically available to you with no enrollment required for 12 months from the date of the breach incident notification you received from Company (the “Coverage Period”). Fraud Events (each, an “Event”) that were discovered prior to your Coverage Period are not covered by AllClear Identity Repair services.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible for Services under AllClear Identity Repair coverage, you must fully comply, without limitations, with your obligations under the terms herein, you must be a citizen or legal resident eighteen (18) years of age or older, and have a valid U.S. Social Security number. Minors under eighteen (18) years of age may be eligible, but must be sponsored by a parent or guardian. The Services cover only you and your personal financial and medical accounts that are directly associated with your valid U.S. Social Security number, including but not limited to credit card, bank, or other financial accounts and/or medical accounts.

### **How to File a Claim**

If you become a victim of fraud covered by the AllClear Identity Repair services, you must:

- Notify AllClear ID by calling 1.855.434.8077 to report the fraud prior to expiration of your Coverage Period;
- Provide proof of eligibility for AllClear Identity Repair by providing the redemption code on the notification letter you received from the sponsor Company;
- Fully cooperate and be truthful with AllClear ID about the Event and agree to execute any documents AllClear ID may reasonably require; and
- Fully cooperate with AllClear ID in any remediation process, including, but not limited to, providing AllClear ID with copies of all available investigation files or reports from any institution, including, but not limited to, credit institutions or law enforcement agencies, relating to the alleged theft.

### **Coverage under AllClear Identity Repair Does Not Apply to the Following:**

Any expense, damage or loss:

- Due to
  - Any transactions on your financial accounts made by authorized users, even if acting without your knowledge, or
  - Any act of theft, deceit, collusion, dishonesty or criminal act by you or any person acting in concert with you, or by any of your authorized representatives, whether acting alone or in collusion with you or others (collectively, your “Misrepresentation”);
- Incurred by you from an Event that did not occur during your coverage period; or
- In connection with an Event that you fail to report to AllClear ID prior to the expiration of your AllClear Identity Repair coverage period.

### **Other Exclusions:**

- AllClear ID will not pay or be obligated for any costs or expenses other than as described herein, including without limitation fees of any service providers not retained by AllClear ID; AllClear ID reserves the right to investigate any asserted claim to determine its validity.
- AllClear ID is not an insurance company, and AllClear Identity Repair is not an insurance policy; AllClear ID will not make payments or reimbursements to you for any loss or liability you may incur.
- AllClear ID is not a credit repair organization, is not a credit counseling service, and does not promise to help you improve your credit history or rating beyond resolving incidents of fraud.
- AllClear ID reserves the right to reasonably investigate any asserted claim to determine its validity. All recipients of AllClear Identity Repair coverage are expected to protect their personal information in a reasonable way at all times. Accordingly, recipients will not deliberately or recklessly disclose or publish their Social Security number or any other personal information to those who would reasonably be expected to improperly use or disclose that Personal Information.

### **Opt-out Policy**

If for any reason you wish to have your information removed from the eligibility database for AllClear Identity Repair, please contact AllClear ID:

<b>E-mail</b> support@allclearid.com	<b>Mail</b> AllClear ID, Inc. 823 Congress Avenue Suite 300 Austin, Texas 78701	<b>Phone</b> 1.855.434.8077
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03-03-5



## Friedman & Perry, CPA's

Processing Center • P.O. BOX 141578 • Austin, TX 78714



00966  
TO THE PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF  
JOHN Q. SAMPLE  
1234 MAIN STREET  
ANYTOWN US 12345-6789

March 9, 2017

### NOTICE OF DATA BREACH

Dear Parent or Guardian of John Sample:

We are writing to provide you with information about a data incident involving Friedman & Perry, CPA's.

#### **What Happened?**

On February 6, 2017, we learned that some clients had received notification letters from either the IRS or the FTB, regarding an attempted filing of their 2016 tax returns. Knowing that neither they nor we filed the returns, we immediately began an investigation into the matter (specifically, whether the breach was from a third party or our computers). That same day we contacted our IT consultant, we ensured that all system passwords were changed and user information was secure, and we started running scans and reviewing our systems to identify any malicious malware on our computers. None was found. We then hired a specialized forensic IT firm for additional investigation.

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If you are an entity, this information may have included your: company name, federal employer identification number, address, telephone number; employee and/or 1099-recipient information (including account number if provided to us); and partner, shareholder/officer or beneficiary names, addresses, and Social Security numbers.

#### **What We Are Doing.**

In addition to the steps outlined above, we notified the FBI, the IRS, the FTB, all three credit bureaus, applicable state agencies, and we are reviewing office policies and procedures to ensure all security measures are taken to avoid such an incident from occurring again. In this endeavor, we hired IT security experts and rebuilt our system with a new router, hard drives and a new server to eliminate any possibility of malicious remnants being possibly installed on our system. Lastly, we are working with law enforcement in their investigation of the criminals.

#### **What You Can Do.**

Given the nature of the information potentially exposed, we strongly recommend the following steps be taken:



01-03-6-00

1. Change all bank account numbers that you have provided to us, or at a minimum remain vigilant by reviewing account statements. These would include direct deposit and electronic fund transfer account details or scanned copies of bank statements and form 1099's.
2. Establish and monitor free 90 day fraud alerts with the three credit reporting bureaus. Their telephone numbers and websites are:

<p>Equifax  P.O. Box 740241  Atlanta, GA 30374  1-888-766-0008  <a href="https://www.alerts.equifax.com/AutoFraudOnline/jsp/fraudAlert.jsp">https://www.alerts.equifax.com/AutoFraudOnline/jsp/fraudAlert.jsp</a></p>	<p>Experian  P.O. Box 2104  Allen, TX 75013  1-888-397-3742  <a href="https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html">https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html</a></p>	<p>TransUnion  P.O. Box 2000  Chester, PA 19022  1-800-680-7289  <a href="http://www.transunion.com/fraud-victim-resource/place-fraud-alert">http://www.transunion.com/fraud-victim-resource/place-fraud-alert</a></p>
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3. Consider placing a credit freeze on your accounts which will make it more difficult for someone to open an account. For more information: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0497-credit-freeze-faqs>
4. If you become a victim of identity theft, file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at <https://identitytheft.gov>. The FTC also provides detailed and specific information about identity theft at their website, which we recommend you review.

Lastly, you are entitled to a free credit report every year from each of these agencies at: [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)

**Next Step of Identity Protection.**

*As an added precaution*, we have arranged to have AllClear ID protect your identity for 12 months at no cost to you. Both of the following identity protection services start on the date of this notice and you can use them at any time during the next 12 months.

AllClear Identity Repair: This service is automatically available to you with no enrollment required. If a problem arises, simply call 1-855-725-5770 and a dedicated investigator will help recover financial losses, restore your credit and make sure your identity is returned to its proper condition.

AllClear Credit Monitoring: This service offers additional layers of protection including credit monitoring and a \$1 million identity theft insurance policy. For a child under 18 years old, AllClear ID ChildScan identifies acts of credit, criminal, medical or employment fraud against children by searching thousands of public databases for use of your child's information. To use this service, you will need to provide your personal information to AllClear ID. You may sign up online at [enroll.allclearid.com](http://enroll.allclearid.com) or by phone by calling 1-855-725-5770 using the following redemption code: Redemption Code.

Please note: Additional steps may be required by you in order to activate your phone alerts and monitoring options.

**For More Information.**

Protecting your information is incredibly important to us, as is addressing this incident with the information and assistance you may need. If you have any questions or concerns, please call at 1-855-725-5770, or write us at 39560 Stevenson Place, Suite 112, Fremont, CA 94539.

Sincerely,

Friedman & Perry, CPA's

## **Further State Specific Information about Identity Theft Protection**

We recommend you remain vigilant with respect to reviewing your account statements and credit reports, and promptly report any suspicious activity or suspected identity theft to us and to the proper law enforcement authorities, including local law enforcement, your state's attorney general and/or the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"). You may contact the FTC or your state's regulatory authority to obtain additional information about avoiding identity theft.

**Federal Trade Commission**, Consumer Response Center  
600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft)

**For residents of Maryland:** You may also obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the Maryland Office of the Attorney General:

**Maryland Office of the Attorney General**, Consumer Protection Division  
200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023, [www.oag.state.md.us](http://www.oag.state.md.us)

**For residents of Massachusetts:** You also have the right to obtain a police report.

**For residents of North Carolina:** You may also obtain information about preventing and avoiding identity theft from the North Carolina Attorney General's Office:

**North Carolina Attorney General's Office**, Consumer Protection Division  
9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, 1-877-5-NO-SCAM, [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov)

**Fraud Alerts:** There are also two types of fraud alerts that you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud: an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for at least 90 days. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft with the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years. You can place a fraud alert on your credit report by calling the toll-free fraud number of any of the three national credit reporting agencies listed below.

Equifax: 1-888-766-0008, [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
Experian: 1-888-397-3742, [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289, [fraud.transunion.com](http://fraud.transunion.com)

**Credit Freezes (for Non-Massachusetts Residents):** You may have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, so that no new credit can be opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate a freeze. A credit freeze is designed to prevent potential credit grantors from accessing your credit report without your consent. If you place a credit freeze, potential creditors and other third parties will not be able to get access to your credit report unless you temporarily lift the freeze. Therefore, using a credit freeze may delay your ability to obtain credit. In addition, you may incur fees to place, lift and/or remove a credit freeze. Credit freeze laws vary from state to state. The cost of placing, temporarily lifting, and removing a credit freeze also varies by state, generally \$5 to \$20 per action at each credit reporting company. *Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a credit freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company.* Since the instructions for how to establish a credit freeze differ from state to state, please contact the three major credit reporting companies as specified below to find out more information:

Equifax: P.O. Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
Experian: P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
TransUnion LLC: P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA, 19022-2000, [freeze.transunion.com](http://freeze.transunion.com)

You can obtain more information about fraud alerts and credit freezes by contacting the FTC or one of the national credit reporting agencies listed above.





## AllClear Identity Repair Terms of Use

If you become a victim of fraud using your personal information without authorization, AllClear ID will help recover your financial losses and restore your identity. Benefits include:

- 12 months of coverage with no enrollment required.
- No cost to you — ever. AllClear Identity Repair is paid for by the participating Company.

### **Services Provided**

If you suspect identity theft, simply call AllClear ID to file a claim. AllClear ID will provide appropriate and necessary remediation services (“Services”) to help restore the compromised accounts and your identity to the state prior to the incident of fraud. Services are determined at the sole discretion of AllClear ID and are subject to the terms and conditions found on the AllClear ID website. AllClear Identity Repair is not an insurance policy, and AllClear ID will not make payments or reimbursements to you for any financial loss, liabilities or expenses you incur.

### **Coverage Period**

Service is automatically available to you with no enrollment required for 12 months from the date of the breach incident notification you received from Company (the “Coverage Period”). Fraud Events (each, an “Event”) that were discovered prior to your Coverage Period are not covered by AllClear Identity Repair services.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

To be eligible for Services under AllClear Identity Repair coverage, you must fully comply, without limitations, with your obligations under the terms herein, you must be a citizen or legal resident eighteen (18) years of age or older, and have a valid U.S. Social Security number. Minors under eighteen (18) years of age may be eligible, but must be sponsored by a parent or guardian. The Services cover only you and your personal financial and medical accounts that are directly associated with your valid U.S. Social Security number, including but not limited to credit card, bank, or other financial accounts and/or medical accounts.

### **How to File a Claim**

If you become a victim of fraud covered by the AllClear Identity Repair services, you must:

- Notify AllClear ID by calling 1.855.434.8077 to report the fraud prior to expiration of your Coverage Period;
- Provide proof of eligibility for AllClear Identity Repair by providing the redemption code on the notification letter you received from the sponsor Company;
- Fully cooperate and be truthful with AllClear ID about the Event and agree to execute any documents AllClear ID may reasonably require; and
- Fully cooperate with AllClear ID in any remediation process, including, but not limited to, providing AllClear ID with copies of all available investigation files or reports from any institution, including, but not limited to, credit institutions or law enforcement agencies, relating to the alleged theft.

### **Coverage under AllClear Identity Repair Does Not Apply to the Following:**

Any expense, damage or loss:

- Due to
  - Any transactions on your financial accounts made by authorized users, even if acting without your knowledge, or
  - Any act of theft, deceit, collusion, dishonesty or criminal act by you or any person acting in concert with you, or by any of your authorized representatives, whether acting alone or in collusion with you or others (collectively, your “Misrepresentation”);
- Incurred by you from an Event that did not occur during your coverage period; or
- In connection with an Event that you fail to report to AllClear ID prior to the expiration of your AllClear Identity Repair coverage period.

### **Other Exclusions:**

- AllClear ID will not pay or be obligated for any costs or expenses other than as described herein, including without limitation fees of any service providers not retained by AllClear ID; AllClear ID reserves the right to investigate any asserted claim to determine its validity.
- AllClear ID is not an insurance company, and AllClear Identity Repair is not an insurance policy; AllClear ID will not make payments or reimbursements to you for any loss or liability you may incur.
- AllClear ID is not a credit repair organization, is not a credit counseling service, and does not promise to help you improve your credit history or rating beyond resolving incidents of fraud.
- AllClear ID reserves the right to reasonably investigate any asserted claim to determine its validity. All recipients of AllClear Identity Repair coverage are expected to protect their personal information in a reasonable way at all times. Accordingly, recipients will not deliberately or recklessly disclose or publish their Social Security number or any other personal information to those who would reasonably be expected to improperly use or disclose that Personal Information.

### **Opt-out Policy**

If for any reason you wish to have your information removed from the eligibility database for AllClear Identity Repair, please contact AllClear ID:

<b>E-mail</b> support@allclearid.com	<b>Mail</b> AllClear ID, Inc. 823 Congress Avenue Suite 300 Austin, Texas 78701	<b>Phone</b> 1.855.434.8077
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