

<<FIRST\_NAME>> <<MIDDLE\_NAME>> <<LAST\_NAME>> <<SUFFIX>>  
<<ADDRESS\_1>>  
<<ADDRESS\_2>>  
<<CITY>>, <<STATE\_PROVINCE>> <<POSTAL\_CODE>>  
<<COUNTRY>>



<<Date>> (Format: Month Day, Year)

**<<b2b\_text\_1 (CA ONLY- Notice of Data Breach)>>**

Dear <<First\_name>> <<Last\_name>>:

Austin Associates, P.A. (“Austin Associates”) writes to inform you of an incident that may affect the security of some of your information. Please note this event affected Austin Associates’ systems and did not impact any of our clients’ systems. Although there is no indication that your information has been fraudulently misused in relation to this event, we are providing you with information about the event, our response, and resources available to you to help protect your information should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

**What Happened?** Austin Associates identified suspicious activity in our computer environment and quickly took steps to secure the relevant systems. We also conducted an investigation to determine the nature and scope of the activity with support from third-party specialists. The investigation determined that an unknown third party obtained unauthorized access to data stored within our environment from February 26, 2025 to March 17, 2025. Therefore, in an abundance of caution, we conducted a comprehensive review of the contents of the data within the areas the unauthorized entry had access to identify what information was contained therein and to whom that information was related. The investigation and review of the data took many months to complete & analyze accurately to determine who may have been affected. We are notifying you because certain information related to you was recently determined to be involved.

**What Information Was Involved?** The personal information involved includes your <<b2b\_text\_2 (exposed data elements)>>.

**What We Are Doing.** We take the privacy and security of the information in our care seriously. Upon learning of the event, we immediately took steps to secure our systems and conducted an investigation to confirm the nature and scope of the activity and determine who may be affected in order to provide them with notice. Though our systems were protected under numerous safeguards prior to the event, as part of our commitment to protect the privacy of personal information in our care, we have and are continuing to add additional safeguards as to better protect against a future event. Austin Associates is also notifying relevant state regulators and reported this incident to law enforcement.

As an added precaution, we are also offering you <<ServiceTerminMonths>> months of identity monitoring services at no cost to you through Kroll. Enrollment instructions are enclosed with this letter.

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 by reviewing your account statements and monitoring your credit reports for suspicious activity and to detect errors. You may also review the information contained in the attached *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Information* for useful information on what you can do to help protect yourself against possible misuse of your information. You may also enroll in the free identity monitoring services we have provided for you.

**For More Information.** If you have additional questions, you may contact our assistance line at (844) 574-1160 Monday through Friday, 8:00 am to 5:30 pm Central Time, excluding U.S. holidays. You may also write to us at PO Box 3400, Auburn, Maine 04212.

Sincerely,

Austin Associates

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

### **Enroll in Identity Monitoring Services**

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

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

*You have until <<b2b\_text\_6 (activation deadline)>> to activate your identity monitoring services.*

Membership Number: <<Membership Number s\_n>>

For more information about Kroll and your Identity Monitoring services, you can visit [info.krollmonitoring.com](mailto:info.krollmonitoring.com).



### **TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR IDENTITY MONITORING SERVICES**

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

#### **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. 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.

#### **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.

#### **Monitor Your Accounts**

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

Consumers have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a one-year alert that is placed on a consumer’s credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer’s credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer’s identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one of the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, consumers have the right to place a “credit freeze” on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without the consumer’s express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on your credit report. To request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;
3. Date of birth;

4. Addresses for the prior two to five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill or telephone bill;
6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (state driver's license or ID card, military identification, etc.); and
7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft if you are a victim of identity theft.

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

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

### **Additional Information**

As a best practice, consumers should change all passwords to their personal accounts on a regular basis, use strong passwords, and refrain from using the same password for multiple accounts. Consumers may further educate themselves regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps they can take to protect their personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or their state attorney general. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov); 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. Consumers can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Consumers have the right to file a police report if they ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, consumers will likely need to provide some proof that they have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and state attorney general. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

*For District of Columbia residents*, the District of Columbia Attorney General may be contacted at: 400 6th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20001; 202-727-3400; and [oag@dc.gov](mailto:oag@dc.gov).

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

*For New Mexico residents*, you have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in your credit file has been used against you, the right to know what is in your credit file, the right to ask for your credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the consumer reporting bureaus must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to your file is limited; you must give your consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; you may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report; and you may seek damages from violator. You may have additional rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act not summarized here. Identity theft victims and active-duty military personnel have specific additional rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage you to review your rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act by visiting [https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\\_cfpb\\_summary\\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf](https://files.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504_cfpb_summary_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf), or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

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

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

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