

DATA INCIDENT NOTIFICATION

What Happened

Gardner Resources Consulting, LLC (“GRC”) is committed to safeguarding the privacy and security of personal information entrusted to it. On September 3, 2021, GRC experienced a cybersecurity incident and took immediate steps to secure its systems and investigate the nature and scope of the incident with assistance of cybersecurity experts. Ultimately, the investigation was unable to determine how the perpetrators gained access to the system or specifically what data they may have been able to access. However, GRC has since been able to fully restore and secure its systems. Out of an abundance of caution and to address any potential issues, we have worked to identify any individuals for whom GRC might have maintained some data. GRC is in the process of notifying those individuals. At this time, we have no evidence that information was misused as a result of this incident.

What Information Was Involved

The incident may have resulted in unauthorized access to the following information related to the potentially affected individuals: name, social security number, driver’s license number or other government-issued IDs, and potentially, financial account information (if shared with GRC).

What We Are Doing

Out of an abundance of caution, we are providing this notice so that all potentially affected individuals can take steps to minimize the risk that their information will be misused. As an added precaution, we have arranged for TransUnion to provide at least 12 months of free credit monitoring and related services to potentially affected individuals. To find out whether you were among those whose data was potentially affected, please contact 1-844-615-0811, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

While we cannot determine with certainty which data was accessed by the unauthorized user, or that it has been misused, we want to notify you of this incident and assure you that we take it very seriously. Although GRC has always taken great care to ensure the protection of the data it maintains, we have implemented additional measures to further protect our systems, including conducting further training of employees to identify potentially malicious emails. We also retained information security experts to review our technological protections and actively monitor our systems for unusual activity.

What You Can Do

In addition to enrolling in the free credit monitoring and related services mentioned above, we recommend that you remain vigilant and take the following steps to protect your identity, credit, and personal information:

1. Contact the nationwide credit-reporting agencies as soon as possible to:
 - Add a fraud alert statement to your credit file at all three national credit-reporting agencies: Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. You only need to contact one of the three agencies listed below; your request will be shared with the other two agencies. This fraud alert will remain on your credit file for 90 days.
 - You can also receive information from these agencies about avoiding identity theft, such as by placing a “security freeze” on your credit accounts.

- Remove your name from mailing lists of pre-approved offers of credit for approximately six months.
- Receive and carefully review a free copy of your credit report by going to www.annualcreditreport.com.

Equifax
P.O. Box 740256
Atlanta, GA 30374
(866) 510-4211
psol@equifax.com
www.equifax.com

Experian
P.O. Box 2390
Allen, TX 75013
(866) 751-1323
Databreachinfo@experian.com
www.experian.com/

TransUnion
P.O. Box 1000
Chester, PA 19022
(800) 888-4213
<https://tudatabreach.tnwreports.com/>
www.transunion.com

- Carefully review all bills and credit card statements you receive to see if there are items you did not contract for or purchase. Also review all of your bank account statements frequently for checks, purchases, or deductions not made by you. Note that even if you do not find suspicious activity initially, you should continue to check this information periodically since identity thieves sometimes hold on to stolen personal information before using it.
- The Federal Trade Commission (“FTC”) offers consumer assistance and educational materials relating to identity theft, privacy issues, and how to avoid identity theft, such as by setting up fraud alerts or placing a “security freeze” on your credit accounts. The FTC can be contacted either by visiting www.ftc.gov, www.consumer.gov/idtheft, or by calling (877) 438-4338. If you suspect or know that you are the victim of identity theft, you should contact local law enforcement or the attorney general, and you can also contact the Fraud Department of the FTC, which will collect all information and make it available to law enforcement agencies. The FTC can be contacted at the website or phone number above, or at the mailing address below:

Federal Trade Commission
Consumer Response Center
600 Pennsylvania Avenue
NW Washington, DC 20580

For Maryland residents: You may contact the Maryland Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, www.oag.state.md.us, 1-888-743-0023.

For North Carolina residents: You may contact the North Carolina Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, www.ncdoj.gov, 1-877-566-7226.

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 Connecticut residents: You may contact the Connecticut Office of the Attorney General, 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106, 1-860-808-5318, www.ct.gov/ag.

For Massachusetts residents: You may contact the Office of the Massachusetts Attorney General, 1 Ashburton Place, Boston, MA 02108, 1-617-727-8400, www.mass.gov/ago/contact-us.html

Reporting of identity theft and obtaining a police report.



For Iowa residents: You are advised to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Iowa Attorney General.

For Massachusetts residents: You have the right to obtain a police report if you are a victim of identity theft.

For Oregon residents: You are advised to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, the Federal Trade Commission, and the Oregon Attorney General.

For More Information

If you have questions or concerns, please contact our dedicated assistance line at 1-844-615-0811, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time. We sincerely apologize for this situation and any concern or inconvenience it may cause you.

Protecting your information is important to us. We hope that the services we are offering to you demonstrate our continued commitment to the security of your information and your satisfaction.