# **EXHIBIT 1**

We represent Vermont State Colleges (which consists of Castleton University, Northern Vermont University, and Vermont Technical College) (collectively, "VSC"), located at 575 Stonecutters Way Montpelier, VT 05601, and are writing to notify your office of an incident that may affect the security of some personal information relating to one (1) Maine resident. The investigation into this matter is ongoing, and this notice will be supplemented with any new significant facts learned subsequent to its submission. By providing this notice, VSC does not waive any rights or defenses regarding the applicability of Maine law, the applicability of the Maine data event notification statute, or personal jurisdiction.

## Nature of the Data Event

On Thursday, July 16, 2020, VSC received notification from one of its third-party vendors, Blackbaud, Inc. ("Blackbaud"), of a cyber incident. Blackbaud is a cloud computing provider that offers customer relationship management and financial services tools to organizations, including VSC. Upon receiving notice of the cyber incident, VSC immediately commenced an investigation to better understand the nature and scope of the incident and any impact on VSC data. This investigation included working diligently to gather further information from Blackbaud to understand the scope of the incident.

In its initial communication, Blackbaud reported that, in May 2020, it experienced a ransomware incident that resulted in encryption of certain Blackbaud systems. Blackbaud reported the incident to law enforcement and worked with forensic investigators to determine what occurred. Following its investigation, Blackbaud notified its customers that an unknown actor may have accessed or acquired certain Blackbaud customer data. Blackbaud reported that the data was exfiltrated by the threat actor at some point before Blackbaud locked the threat actor out of the environment on May 20, 2020.

Based on VSC's investigation, it was determined that the information that could have been subject to unauthorized acquisition includes name, address, and financial account information.

## Notice to Maine Resident

On February 23, 2021, VSC provided written notice of this incident to potentially affected individuals, which includes one (1) Maine resident. Written notice is being provided in substantially the same form as the letter attached hereto as *Exhibit A*.

## **Other Steps Taken and To Be Taken**

Upon discovering the event, VSC moved quickly to investigate and respond to the incident, assess the security of VSC systems, and notify potentially affected individuals.

Additionally, VSC is providing impacted individuals with guidance on how to better protect against identity theft and fraud, including advising individuals to report any suspected incidents of identity theft or fraud to their credit card company and/or bank. VSC is providing individuals with information on how to place a fraud alert and security freeze on one's credit file, information on protecting against tax fraud, the contact details for the national consumer reporting agencies,

information on how to obtain a free credit report, a reminder to remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing account statements and monitoring free credit reports, and encouragement to contact the Federal Trade Commission, their state Attorney General, and law enforcement to report attempted or actual identity theft and fraud.

# **EXHIBIT** A

# VERMONT TECH

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

<<first\_name>> <<middle\_name>> <<last\_name>> <<suffix>> <<address\_1>> <<address\_2>> <<city>>, <<state\_province>> <<postal\_code>> <<country >>

#### Dear <<first\_name>> <<middle\_name>> <<last\_name>> <<suffix>>:

Vermont Technical College writes to inform you of a recent incident that may affect the privacy of some of your information. On Thursday, July 16, 2020, Vermont Technical College received notification from one of its third-party vendors, Blackbaud, Inc. ("Blackbaud"), of a cyber incident. Blackbaud is a cloud computing provider that offers customer relationship management and financial services tools to organizations, including Vermont Technical College. Upon receiving notice of the cyber incident, we immediately commenced an investigation to better understand the nature and scope of the incident and any impact on Vermont Technical College data. This notice provides information about the Blackbaud incident, our response, and resources available to you to help protect your information from possible misuse, should you feel it necessary to do so.

Blackbaud reported that, in May 2020, it experienced a ransomware incident that resulted in encryption of certain Blackbaud systems. Blackbaud reported the incident to law enforcement and worked with forensic investigators to determine the nature and scope of the incident. Following its investigation, Blackbaud notified its customers that an unknown actor may have accessed or acquired certain Blackbaud customer data. Blackbaud reported that the data was exfiltrated by the threat actor at some point before Blackbaud locked the threat actor out of the environment on May 20, 2020. Upon learning of the Blackbaud incident, Vermont Technical College immediately commenced an investigation to determine what, if any, sensitive Vermont Technical College data was potentially involved. This investigation included working diligently to gather further information from Blackbaud to understand the scope of the incident.

Our investigation determined that the involved Blackbaud systems contained your <<<u>b2b\_text\_1(Data Elements)</u>>>. Please note that, to date, we have not received confirmation from Blackbaud that your specific information was accessed or acquired by the unknown actor.

The confidentiality, privacy, and security of information in our care are among our highest priorities, and we take this incident very seriously. As part of our ongoing commitment to the security of information in our care and are working with Blackbaud to evaluate additional measures and safeguards to protect against this type of incident in the future.

We encourage you to review the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information*. There you will find general information on what you can do to help protect your personal information.

We understand that you may have questions about the Blackbaud incident that are not addressed in this letter. If you have additional questions, please call the dedicated assistance line that we have helped set-up at 1-XXX-XXX, Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Eastern Time, excluding some U.S. holidays.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern this incident has caused.

Sincerely,

<<Signatory>> Vermont Technical College

# Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information

### **Monitor Your 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 <u>www.annualcreditreport.com</u> 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	TransUnion	Equifax
PO Box 9554	P.O. Box 160	PO Box 105788
Allen, TX 75013	Woodlyn, PA 19094	Atlanta, GA 30348-5788
1-888-397-3742	1-888-909-8872	1-800-685-1111
www.experian.com/freeze/center.html	www.transunion.com/credit-freeze	www.equifax.com/personal/credit-

report-services

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	TransUnion	Equifax
P.O. Box 9554	P.O. Box 2000	P.O. Box 105069
Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19016	Atlanta, GA 30348
1-888-397-3742	1-800-680-7289	1-888-766-0008
www.experian.com/fraud/center.html	www.transunion.com/fraud-victim-	www.equifax.com/personal/credit-
	resource/place-fraud-alert	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, 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338). 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.

**Maryland Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of Maryland, Consumer Protection Division 200 St. Paul Place Baltimore, MD 21202, <u>www.oag.state.md.us/Consumer</u>, Telephone: 1-888-743-0023, 1-410-528-8662. **New York Residents:** the Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 122240341; 1-800-771-7755; <u>https://ag.ny.gov/</u>. **North Carolina Residents:** Office of the Attorney General of North Carolina, Consumer Protection Division, 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, <u>www.ncdoj.gov</u>, Telephone: 1-919716-6400, 877-566-7226 (toll free within NC). **Oregon Residents:** Oregon Department of Justice, 1162 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301-4096, <u>www.doj.state.or.us/</u>, Telephone: 877-877-9392. **Rhode Island Residents:** Office of the Attorney General, 150 South Main Street, Providence, Rhode Island 02903, <u>www.riag.ri.gov</u>, Telephone: 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. **Washington D.C. Residents:** the Office of Attorney General for the District of Columbia can be reached at: 441 4thStreet NW, Suite 1100 South, Washington, D.C. 20001; 1-202-442-9828; <u>https:// oag.dc.gov</u>. **All US Residents:** Identity Theft Clearinghouse, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20580, <u>www.consumer.gov/idtheft</u>, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338).