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March 15, 2023

Via Online Form

Attorney General Aaron Frey
Office of the Attorney General
Consumer Protection Division
Security Breach Notification
111 Sewall Street, 6th Floor
Augusta, ME 04330
Email: breach.security@maine.gov

Re: Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear Attorney General Frey:

Constangy, Brooks, Smith & Prophete LLP ("Constangy") represents Eastern Research Group, Inc. ("ERG") in connection with a recent data security incident described in greater detail below.

1. Nature of the security incident.

On January 30, 2023, ERG discovered that it had experienced an incident involving the inadvertent mis-mailing of certain individuals' IRS Form 1099 to improper recipients. In response, ERG promptly launched an investigation to determine what happened and the scope of potentially impacted information / individuals. On or about February 3, 2023, ERG determined that your personal information may have accidentally been sent to another individual who performs services for ERG. ERG then took steps to identify the individuals whose personal information was possibly affected and finalized its review on March 1, 2023. Please note that ERG has no evidence of the misuse or attempted misuse of any potentially impacted information.

The information that may have been accessible by the improper IRS Form 1099 recipients includes potentially impacted individuals' names and Social Security numbers.

2. Number of Maine residents affected.

ERG notified one (1) Maine resident of this incident via first class U.S. mail on March 15, 2023. A sample copy of the notification letter is included with this correspondence.

3. Steps taken relating to the Incident.

As soon as ERG discovered this incident, ERG launched an investigation to determine what happened and the scope of personal information potentially impacted. ERG also implemented changes to its IRS Form 1099 mailing process in an effort to minimize the risk of a similar incident occurring in the

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future.

ERG has established a toll-free call center through IDX, a leader in risk mitigation and response, to answer any questions about the incident and address related concerns. The call center is available at 1-800-939-4170 from 8:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M. Central Time, Monday through Friday (excluding holidays). In addition, while ERG is not aware of the misuse of any information as a result of this incident, out of an abundance of caution, ERG is also providing complimentary identity protection services to notified individuals.

4. Contact information.

ERG remains dedicated to protecting the personal information in its control. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact Constangy.

Best regards,



Alyssa R. Watzman
CONSTANGY BROOKS SMITH & PROPHETE LLP

Enclosure: Sample Notification Letter