

Richard Goldberg, Partner Cybersecurity & Data Privacy Team 1650 Market Street, Suite 3600 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103 rgoldberg@constangy.com

January 25, 2024

VIA ONLINE SUBMISSION

Attorney General Aaron Frey Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection Division Security Breach Notification 111 Sewall Street, 6th Floor Augusta, ME 04330

Re: Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear Attorney General Frey:

Constangy, Brooks, Smith and Prophete LLP ("Constangy") represents GC Services ("GC Services" or "the company") in connection with a data security incident described in greater detail below.

1. Nature of Incident

On December 26, 2023, we learned that at least one resident of Maine may have had their personal information involved in our client's data security incident. One of GC Services' customers which had data involved in the incident is Navient Portfolio Management, LLC ("NPM"). GC Services provides collection services for NPM in connection with private education loans. The incident began on September 11, 2023, when GC Services experienced a computer outage that disrupted access to certain local cyber systems. After detecting and promptly containing the incident, the company launched an investigation with the support of external cybersecurity experts to learn more about the scope of the incident. Through that investigation, the company learned that someone may have gained unauthorized access to its network between and potentially acquired certain files, some of which contained personal information.

The potentially impacted information included an individual's name, address, Social Security number, and date of birth.

2. Number of residents affected

The company is notifying residents of the incident via first class U.S. mail on January 25, 2024. We expect the number of involved residents to be 2. The notification letter will describe the incident, information potentially involved, actions taken, protection available to residents (including credit monitoring), and provide contact and help information.

3. Steps taken relating to the incident

As soon as GC Services discovered the incident, it took the steps described above. In addition, GC Services notified law enforcement and will notify the potentially involved person shortly. To reduce the likelihood of a similar incident occurring in the future, the company took steps to further bolster the security of its network. Lastly, GC Services is offering notified individuals complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services.

4. Contact information

GC Services takes the privacy and security of all information in its possession very seriously. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 917.744.1760 or rgoldberg@constangy.com.

Sincerely yours,

Richard Goldberg

Richard Goldberg of CONSTANGY, BROOKS, SMITH & PROPHETE LLP

Encl.: Sample Consumer Notification Letter



Return to IDX 4145 SW Watson Ave Suite 400 Beaverton, OR 97005

<< First Name>> << Last Name>> <<Address 1>> <<Address 2>> <<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

January 25, 2024

Subject: Notice of Data Security << Breach/Incident>>

Dear << First Name>> << Last Name>>:

The purpose of this communication is to notify you of a data security incident experienced by GC Services, which provides collection services for its clients, including Navient Portfolio Management, LLC in connection with your private education loan(s). This incident may have involved data used by GC Services to help provide those services. Of course, we prioritize maintaining the privacy and security of all information in our possession. That is why we are notifying you of the event and providing you with resources to help protect your information.

What Happened: On December 26, 2023, we learned that your personal information may have been involved in a data security incident. On September 11, 2023, we experienced a computer outage that disrupted access to certain local cyber systems. After detecting and promptly containing the incident, we launched an investigation with the support of external cybersecurity experts to learn more about the scope of the incident. Through that investigation, we learned someone may have gained unauthorized access to our network between September 11 and September 20, 2023 and potentially acquired certain files, some of which contained personal information. We then researched whose information may have been involved and learned that your personal information may have been involved. We then took steps to notify people whose information may have been involved.

What Information Was Involved? The information involved in this incident may have included your name, address, Social Security number, and date birth.

What We Are Doing: Upon discovering this incident, we launched an investigation and took steps to secure our network. We took steps to help prevent a similar incident from occurring in the future. We also notified the Federal Bureau of Investigation and will continue to offer assistance in their investigation.

We are also offering you access to credit monitoring and identity theft protection services through IDX, A ZeroFox Company, the data breach and recovery services expert. These services include: <<12/24>> months of credit and dark web monitoring, a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy, and fully managed identity theft recovery services. To enroll, please call 1-888-618-5531 or visit <u>https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</u>, and use the enrollment code <<er><<enrollment code>>.Please note that the deadline to enroll is April 25, 2024.

What You Can Do: We encourage you to enroll in the complimentary credit protection services we are offering. With this protection, IDX can help you resolve issues if your identity is compromised. Please also review the guidance at the end of this letter which includes additional resources you may utilize to help protect your information.

For More Information: If you have questions or need assistance, please contact 1-888-618-5531, Monday through Friday from 8:00 pm Central Time, excluding major U.S. holidays. IDX representatives are fully versed on this incident and can help answer questions you may have regarding the protection of your information.

We regret any worry or inconvenience that this may cause you.

Very truly yours,

GC Services 6330 Gulfton St. Houston, Texas 77081 713-776-6485

STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

Review Your Account Statements and Notify Law Enforcement of Suspicious Activity: As a precautionary measure, we recommend that you remain vigilant by reviewing your account statements and credit reports closely. If you detect any suspicious activity on an account, you should promptly notify the financial institution or company with which the account is maintained. You also should promptly report any fraudulent activity or any suspected incidence of identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, your state attorney general, and/or the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

Copy of Credit Report: You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three major credit reporting agencies once every 12 months by visiting <u>http://www.annualcreditreport.com/</u>, calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or by completing an Annual Credit Report Request Form and mailing it to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348. You also can contact one of the following three national credit reporting agencies:

Equifax	Experian	TransUnion
P.O. Box 105851	P.O. Box 9532	P.O. Box 1000
Atlanta, GA 30348	Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19016
1 (888) 378-4329	1-888-397-3742	1-800-916-8800
www.equifax.com	www.experian.com	www.transunion.com

Fraud Alert: You may want to consider placing a fraud alert on your credit report. An initial fraud alert is free and will stay on your credit file for at least one year. The alert informs creditors of possible fraudulent activity within your report and requests that the creditor contact you prior to establishing any accounts in your name. To place a fraud alert on your credit report, contact any of the three credit reporting agencies identified above. Additional information is available at http://www.annualcreditreport.com.

Security Freeze: You have the right to put a security freeze on your credit file for up to one year at no cost. This will prevent new credit from being opened in your name without the use of a PIN number that is issued to you when you initiate the freeze. A security freeze is designed to prevent potential creditors from accessing your credit report without your consent. As a result, using a security freeze may interfere with or delay your ability to obtain credit. You must separately place a security freeze on your credit file with each credit reporting agency. In order to place a security freeze, you may be required to provide the consumer reporting agency with information that identifies you including your full name, Social Security number, date of birth, current and previous addresses, a copy of your state-issued identification card, and a recent utility bill, bank statement or insurance statement.

Additional Free Resources: You can obtain information from the consumer reporting agencies, the FTC, or from your respective state Attorney General about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft. You may report suspected identity theft to local law enforcement, including to the FTC or to the Attorney General in your state.

Federal Trade Commission	Maryland Attorney General	New York Attorney General
600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW	200 St. Paul Place	Bureau of Internet and Technology
Washington, DC 20580	Baltimore, MD 21202	Resources
consumer.ftc.gov, and	oag.state.md.us	28 Liberty Street
www.ftc.gov/idtheft	1-888-743-0023	New York, NY 10005
1-877-438-4338		1-212-416-8433
North Carolina Attorney General 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699 <u>ncdoj.gov</u> 1-877-566-7226	Rhode Island Attorney General 150 South Main Street Providence, RI 02903 <u>http://www.riag.ri.gov</u> 1-401-274-4400	Washington D.C. Attorney General 441 4th Street, NW Washington, DC 20001 <u>oag.dc.gov</u> 1-202-727-3400

You also have certain rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA): These rights include to know what is in your file; to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information; to have consumer reporting agencies correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; as well as other rights. For more information about the FCRA, and your rights pursuant to the FCRA, please visit <u>https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf-0096-fair-credit-reporting-act.pdf</u>.