

## **Notice of Data Breach**

**Methuen, Massachusetts – February 20, 2026 - HRO Insurance Agency, Inc.** (“HRO”), is writing to inform you of a data security incident that may have involved your personal information. We take the protection of your personal information very seriously and are sending you this notice to tell you what happened, what information was involved, what we have done in response, what you can do in response to this incident, and what resources are available to help against the potential misuse of sensitive personal information. ~~protect~~ you feel it is appropriate.

### **What Information Was Involved?**

The personal information that may have been subject to unauthorized access includes first and last name, address, date of birth, Social Security number, passport number, student identification number, financial account number, credit card number in combination with CVV and expiration date, bank account and routing number, federal tax information, medical information, medical diagnosis, condition and/or treatment, medical test/lab results, prescription/medication, medical record number, health insurance policy number, and digitalized or electronic signature. The information varies by individual.

### **What We Are Doing.**

Data privacy and security are among HRO’s highest priorities, and we are committed to doing everything we can to protect the privacy and security of the personal information in our care. Upon discovery of the incident, HRO moved quickly and diligently to investigate, respond, and assess the security of its systems with the assistance of outside experts. In addition, HRO has also taken additional technical and administrative steps to further enhance the security of its systems and customer data to mitigate the risk of future harm. Specifically, HRO has enhanced its email security settings, conducted additional employee cybersecurity training, and implemented expanded system monitoring to further protect against similar incidents in the future.

HRO is reviewing the compromised systems to identify the specific individuals and the types of information that may have been compromised and will notify affected individuals by mail as the information becomes available. HRO will be offering complimentary credit monitoring to affected individuals and enrollment instructions will be provided in the individual notice letter.

### **What You Can Do:**

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 or unauthorized activity. Additionally, security experts suggest that you contact your financial institution and all major credit bureaus to inform them of such a breach and then take whatever steps are recommended to protect your interests, including the possible placement of a fraud alert on your credit file. Please review the enclosed Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information, to learn more about how to protect against the possibility of information misuse.

### **Other Important Information:**

If you have any questions or concerns not addressed in this letter, please call 1(866)933-9693 (toll free) Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m., Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern time, excluding major U.S. holidays.

HRO sincerely regrets any concern or inconvenience this matter may cause and remains dedicated to ensuring the privacy and security of all information in our control.

Sincerely,

HRO Insurance Agency, Inc.

## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

### **Monitor Your Accounts**

We recommend that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by regularly reviewing your credit reports and financial accounts for any suspicious activity. You should contact the reporting agency using the phone number on the credit report if you find any inaccuracies with your information or if you do not recognize any of the account activity.

You may obtain a free copy of your credit report by visiting [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), calling toll-free at 1-877-322-8228, or by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)) to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281. You may also purchase a copy of your credit report for a fee by contacting one or more of the three national credit reporting agencies.

You have rights under the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA). The FCRA governs the collection and use of information about you that is reported by consumer reporting agencies. You can obtain additional information about your rights under the FCRA by visiting <https://www.ftc.gov/legal-library/browse/statutes/fair-credit-reporting-act>.

### **Credit Freeze**

You have the right to add, temporarily lift and remove a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit report at no cost. A credit freeze prevents all third parties, such as credit lenders or other companies, whose use is not exempt under law, from accessing your credit file without your consent. If you have a freeze, you must remove or temporarily lift it to apply for credit. Spouses can request freezes for each other as long as they pass authentication. You can also request a freeze for someone if you have a valid Power of Attorney. If you are a parent/guardian/representative, you can request a freeze for a minor 15 and younger. To add a security freeze on your credit report you must make a separate request to each of the three national consumer reporting agencies by phone, online, or by mail by following the instructions found at their websites (see “Contact Information” below). The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze: (i) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (ii) Social Security number; (iii) date of birth (month, day, and year); (iv) current address and any previous addresses for the past five (5) years; (v) proof of current address (such as a copy of a government-issued identification card, a recent utility or telephone bill, or bank or insurance statement); and (vi) other personal information as required by the applicable credit reporting agency.

### **Fraud Alert**

You have the right to add, extend, or remove a fraud alert on your credit file at no cost. A fraud alert is a statement that is added to your credit file that will notify potential credit grantors that you may be or have been a victim of identity theft. Before they extend credit, they should use reasonable procedures to verify your identity. Please note that, unlike a credit freeze, a fraud alert only notifies lenders to verify your identity before extending new credit, but it does not block access to your credit report. Fraud alerts are free to add and are valid for one year. Victims of identity theft can obtain an extended fraud alert for seven years. You can add a fraud alert by sending your request to any one of the three national reporting agencies by phone, online, or by mail by following the instructions found at their websites (see “Contact Information” below). The agency you contact will then contact the other credit agencies.

### **Federal Trade Commission**

For more information about credit freezes and fraud alerts and other steps you can take to protect yourself against identity theft, you can contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov), 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338), 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. You can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above.

You should also report instances of known or suspected identity theft to local law enforcement and the Attorney General’s office in your home state, and you have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of your police report.

## **Contact Information**

Below is the contact information for the three national credit reporting agencies (Experian, Equifax, and Transunion) if you would like to add a fraud alert or credit freeze to your credit report.

<b>Credit Reporting Agency</b>	<b>Access Your Credit Report</b>	<b>Add a Fraud Alert</b>	<b>Add a Security Freeze</b>
<b>Experian</b>	P.O. Box 2002 Allen, TX 75013-9701 1-866-200-6020 <a href="http://www.experian.com">www.experian.com</a>	P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013-9554 1-888-397-3742 <a href="https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html">https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html</a>	P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013-9554 1-888-397-3742 <a href="http://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html">www.experian.com/freeze/center.html</a>
<b>Equifax</b>	P.O. Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374-0241 1-866-349-5191 <a href="http://www.equifax.com">www.equifax.com</a>	P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069 1-800-525-6285 <a href="http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts">www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts</a>	P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788 1-888-298-0045 <a href="http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services">www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services</a>
<b>TransUnion</b>	P.O. Box 1000 Chester, PA 19016-1000 1-800-888-4213 <a href="http://www.transunion.com">www.transunion.com</a>	P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016 1-800-680-7289 <a href="http://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts">www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts</a>	P.O. Box 160 Woodlyn, PA 19094 1-800-916-8800 <a href="http://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze">www.transunion.com/credit-freeze</a>

**Iowa and Oregon residents are advised to report suspected incidents of identity theft to local law enforcement, to their respective Attorney General, and the FTC.**

**Massachusetts** residents are advised of their right to obtain a police report in connection with this incident.

**District of Columbia** residents are advised of their right to obtain a security freeze free of charge and can obtain information about steps to take to avoid identity theft by contacting the FTC (contact information provided above) and the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, Office of Consumer Protection, at 400 6<sup>th</sup> St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20001, by calling the Consumer Protection Hotline at (202) 442-9828, by visiting <https://oag.dc.gov>, or emailing at [consumer.protection@dc.gov](mailto:consumer.protection@dc.gov).

**Maryland** residents can obtain information about steps they can take to avoid identity theft by contacting the FTC (contact information provided above) or the Maryland Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division Office at 44 North Potomac Street, Suite 104, Hagerstown, MD 21740, by phone at 1-888-743-0023 or 410-528-8662, or by visiting <http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/contactus.aspx>.

**New York** residents are advised that in response to this incident they can place a fraud alert or security freeze on their credit reports and may report any incidents of suspected identity theft to law enforcement, the FTC, the New York Attorney General, or local law enforcement. Additional information is available at the website of the New York Department of State Division of Consumer Protection at <https://dos.nysits.acsitefactory.com/consumerprotection>; by visiting the New York Attorney General at <https://ag.ny.gov> or by phone at 1-800-771-7755; or by contacting the FTC at [www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/](http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/) or <https://www.identitytheft.gov/#/>.

**North Carolina** residents are advised to remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring free credit reports and may obtain information about preventing identity theft by contacting the FTC (contact information provided above) or the North Carolina Office of the Attorney General, Consumer Protection Division at 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, or visiting [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov), or by phone at 1-877-5-NO-SCAM (1-877-566-7226) or (919) 716-6000.

**Rhode Island** residents are advised that they may file or obtain a police report in connection with this incident and place a security freeze on their credit file and that fees may be required to be paid to the consumer reporting agencies.