LATAH COUNTY



PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release

Latah County, Idaho Provides Notice of Data Security Incident:

Moscow, Idaho August 7, 2020 –Latah County has been diligently working to investigate and act after discovering that it became the target of a phishing email campaign that compromised several employee email account credentials.

What Happened? Latah County quickly became aware of suspicious activity in certain employee email accounts in late March of 2020. Upon seeing this suspicious activity, we acted immediately to change those users' access credentials and launched an investigation. As part of the investigation, which was conducted with the assistance of third-party forensic specialists, it was determined that certain Latah County email accounts were potentially subject to unauthorized access between March 25, 2020 and March 27, 2020. The forensic investigator conducted a comprehensive review of the emails and attachments in the affected email accounts to determine the types of personal information at issue and to whom the information related.

What Information Was Involved? The types of information contained within the potentially impacted emails varied by individual but included: an individual's name, date of birth, Social Security number, driver's license number, and passport number. The information involved came only from email accounts and there is no indication of a breach in our property tax, voter or other information systems.

What is Latah County Doing in Response to this Incident? Latah County is committed to, and takes very seriously, its responsibility to protect all data in its possession. Latah County is continuously taking steps to enhance data security protections. As part of its incident response, we changed log-in credentials for all employee email accounts to prevent further unauthorized access.

In an abundance of caution, Latah County has offered 12 months of complimentary credit monitoring to potentially affected individuals so that they may take further steps to best protect their personal information, should they feel it is appropriate to do so. On August 7, 2020, Latah County also began mailing notice letters to individuals whose information was contained within the impacted accounts and for whom we had a postal address.

For More Information. Latah County established a dedicated assistance line for individuals seeking additional information regarding this incident. If you believe you were impacted by this incident, you can contact 855-915-0914, Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM (Eastern)

What Individuals Can Do. Individuals may contact the dedicated assistance line or visit Latah County's website at www.latah.id.us to learn more about steps they can take in response to this incident.

Monitor Your Accounts

Latah County encourages potentially impacted individuals 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 2000	PO Box 105788
Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19106	Atlanta, GA 30348-5788
1-888-397-3742	1-800-909-8872	1-800-685-1111
www.experian.com/freeze/center.	www.transunion.com/cre	www.equifax.com/personal/cr
html	<u>dit-freeze</u>	edit-report-services

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 2002	P.O. Box 2000	P.O. Box 105069
Allen, TX 75013	Chester, PA 19106	Atlanta, GA 30348
1-888-397-3742	1-800-680-7289	1-888-766-0008
www.experian.com/fraud/center.	www.transunion.com/fra	www.equifax.com/personal/cre
<u>html</u>	ud-victim-	dit-report-services
	<u>resource/place-fraud-</u>	
	alert	

Although we have no reason to believe that your personal information has been used to file fraudulent tax returns, you can contact the IRS at <u>www.irs.gov/Individuals/Identity-Protection</u> for helpful information and guidance on steps you can take to address a fraudulent tax return filed in your name and what to do if you become the victim of such fraud. You can also visit <u>www.irs.gov/uac/Taxpayer-Guide-to-Identity-Theft</u> for more 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, <u>www.identitytheft.gov</u>, 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 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. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

For New Mexico residents, you have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in your credit file has been used against you, the right to know what is in your credit file, the right to ask for your credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to your file is limited; you must give your consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; you may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report; and you may seek damages from violators. You may have additional rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act not summarized here. Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have specific additional rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage you to review your rights pursuant the Fair Credit Reporting Act to bv visiting www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504_cfpb_summary_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf, or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.