



March 1, 2021

Clerk of the House
Illinois General Assembly
420 Capitol Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Secretary of the Senate
Illinois General Assembly
403 Capitol Building
Springfield, Illinois 62706

Re: Notification of a Potential Data Security Incident

Dear Madam/Sir:

The Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, (“SIU”) is providing notice pursuant to 815 ILCS 530/25 in connection with an incident that may have involved the personal information of certain Illinois residents. This notice will be supplemented, if necessary, with any new significant facts discovered subsequent to its submission. While SIU is notifying you of this incident, SIU does not waive any rights or defenses relating to the incident or this notice.

NATURE OF THE INCIDENT AND CORRECTIVE ACTIONS TAKEN

SIU recently discovered that an unknown, unauthorized third party may have accessed an electronic file transfer service utilized by SIU for short periods of time on December 24, 2020, January 20, 2021, and January 21, 2021. Upon discovering the incident, SIU began an investigation, notified law enforcement, and has since shut down access to the service. Additionally, SIU engaged a forensic security firm to conduct an investigation of the incident and confirm the security of SIU’s network. On February 22, 2021, the forensic investigation confirmed that unauthorized access to the service occurred.

SIU searched the documents for any personal information or protected health information. SIU determined that the documents contained personal information for certain individuals, including, depending on the individual, their name, date of birth, Social Security number, driver’s license number, medical treatment information, and medical insurance information. SIU is working to notify individuals and state and federal regulators as quickly as possible in accordance with state and federal law. SIU will arrange for complimentary identity theft protection services for those individuals whose Social Security numbers and/or driver’s license numbers were involved in the incident.

If SIU determines the identity of the actor who accessed SIU’s system, SIU will notify the General Assembly in accordance with 815 ILCS 530/12(f). SIU is taking steps to reduce the risk of this type of incident occurring in the future, including terminating the use of this particular service.

CONTACT INFORMATION



SIU MEDICINE

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or if I can provide you with any further information concerning this matter.

Very truly yours,

Kate Cohen, JD, CHC, CHRC
Chief Compliance Officer
SIU School of Medicine

