



Todd M. Rowe  
550 West Adams Street  
Suite 300  
Chicago, IL 60661  
Todd.Rowe @lewisbrisbois.com  
Direct: (312) 463-3355

August 2, 2022

**VIA ELECTRONIC 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: **Notification of Data Security Incident**

Dear Attorney General Frey:

Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP represents Emery Accounting LLC dba Accounting Solutions of Idaho ("ASI") in connection with a recent data security incident that may have affected the information of certain Maine residents. ASI is a full-service firm based in Idaho specializing in accounting, tax, bookkeeping, and payroll services for businesses and individuals throughout the United States. ASI maintains two offices in Idaho located in Priest River and Sandpoint. The purpose of this letter is to notify you of the incident in accordance with Maine's data breach notification statute.

**1. Nature of the data security incident.**

On March 7, 2022, ASI discovered unusual activity within its digital environment. Upon discovering this activity, ASI immediately took steps to secure its digital environment. ASI engaged leading cybersecurity firms to conduct an investigation to determine whether personal information may have been impacted as a result of the incident. The investigation revealed that an unauthorized actor gained access to and may have acquired certain ASI data.

In response to the incident, ASI is providing affected individuals with information about steps that they can take to help protect their personal information. As a further precaution, ASI is also offering Maine consumers one (1) year of complimentary credit and identity monitoring services through Kroll. This product helps detect possible misuse of personal information and provides consumers whose information may have been accessed without authorization with identity protection support.

**2. Number of Maine residents affected.**

ASI determined that one (1) Maine resident was impacted in this incident. Notification letters were mailed to all affected individuals on August 2, 2022. A sample copy of the letter provided to impacted individuals is included with this letter.

**3. Steps taken relating to the incident.**

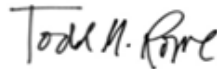
As soon as ASI discovered this incident, ASI took steps to secure its environment and launched an investigation to determine what happened and whether personal information had been impacted. ASI has also implemented additional safeguards to help ensure the security of its network environment and to reduce the risk of a similar incident occurring in the future.

As discussed above, ASI is notifying the affected individuals and providing them with steps they can take to protect their personal information, including enrolling in the complimentary identity monitoring services offered in the notification letter.

**4. Contact information.**

ASI is committed to protecting the personal information in its control. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (312) 463-3355 or by e-mail at [Todd.Rowe@lewisbrisbois.com](mailto:Todd.Rowe@lewisbrisbois.com).

Sincerely,



Todd M. Rowe of  
LEWIS BRISBOIS BISGAARD & SMITH LLP

Enclosure: Sample Consumer Notification Letter



<<Date>> (Format: Month Day, Year)

<<first\_name>> <<middle\_name>> <<last\_name>> <<suffix>>  
<<address\_1>>  
<<address\_2>>  
<<city>>, <<state\_province>> <<postal\_code>>  
<<country>>

<<b2b\_Text\_1(Subject Line)>>

Dear <<First\_Name>> <<Last\_Name>>:

Emery Accounting LLC dba Accounting Solutions of Idaho (“ASI”) is writing to inform you of a recent data security incident that may have involved some of your personal information. At ASI, we take the privacy and security of all information within our possession very seriously. That is why we are writing to provide you with information about this incident, about steps you can take to help protect your personal information, and to offer you complimentary Identity monitoring services.

**What Happened?** On March 7, 2022, ASI discovered unusual activity within its digital environment. Upon discovering this activity, ASI immediately took steps to secure its digital environment. ASI engaged leading cybersecurity firms to conduct an investigation to determine whether personal information may have been impacted as a result of the incident. The investigation revealed that an unauthorized actor may have acquired certain ASI data. On July 5, 2022, we determined that some of your personal information may have been involved in this incident. Out of an abundance of caution, we are notifying you of this incident and providing you with measures you can take to help protect your personal information.

**What Information Was Involved?** The information potentially impacted is any information you provided to ASI and may include your name and Social Security number.

**What We Are Doing:** As soon as the incident was discovered, ASI took the steps referenced above and implemented additional security measures to reduce the risk of a similar incident occurring in the future. We are further notifying you of this event and advising you about steps you can take to help protect your information. In addition, out of an abundance of caution, we are offering you complimentary Identity monitoring services through Kroll, a global leader in risk mitigation and response. These services include 24 months of credit monitoring, Web Watcher, Public Persona, Quick Cash Scan, a \$1 million identity fraud loss reimbursement policy and fully managed identity theft recovery services. With these services, Kroll will help you resolve issues if your identity is compromised.

**What You Can Do:** Please review this letter carefully, along with the guidance included with this letter about additional steps you can take to help protect your information. You can also activate Kroll’s identity monitoring services, which are offered to you at no cost.

**How to Activate:**

Visit <https://enroll.krollmonitoring.com> to activate and take advantage of your identity monitoring services.

You have until <<b2b\_text\_6(activation deadline)>> to activate your identity monitoring services.

Membership Number: <<Membership Number s\_n>>

To receive identity monitoring services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file. For more information about Kroll and your Identity Monitoring services, you can visit [info.krollmonitoring.com](http://info.krollmonitoring.com).

Additional information describing your services are included with this letter.

**For More Information:** Further information about how to help protect your information appears on the following page. If you have questions or need assistance, Kroll representatives are available by calling 1-800-833-8333 Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Central Time, excluding major U.S. holidays. Please note the deadline to activate is <<b2b\_text\_6(activation deadline)>>. Please do not discard this letter, as you will need the Membership Number provided above to access services.

Please accept our sincere apologies and know that we deeply regret any worry or inconvenience that this may cause you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Shawna Nielsen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shawna Nielsen  
President  
Emery Accounting LLC dba Accounting Solutions of Idaho

## 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).

- *Federal Trade Commission*, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20580, 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338), [www.consumer.ftc.gov](http://www.consumer.ftc.gov), [www.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft).

**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 <http://www.annualcreditreport.com/>, 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**

P.O. Box 105851  
Atlanta, GA 30348  
1-800-525-6285  
[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)

### **Experian**

P.O. Box 9532  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742  
[www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)

### **TransUnion**

P.O. Box 1000  
Chester, PA 19016  
1-800-916-8800  
[www.transunion.com](http://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.

**Iowa:** You are advised to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Office of the Attorney General of Iowa, 1305 E Walnut St, Des Moines, IA 50319, 1-888-373-5044, <https://www.iowaattorneygeneral.gov/>.

**Maine:** Maine Attorney General can be reached at: 6 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333; 207-626-8800; <https://www.maine.gov/ag/>.

**North Carolina:** North Carolina Attorney General's Office, Consumer Protection Division, can be reached at: 9001 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 877-5-NO-SCAM (Toll-free within North Carolina); 919-716-6000; [www.ncdoj.gov](http://www.ncdoj.gov)

**Oregon:** You may also contact the Oregon Office of the Attorney General: Oregon Department of Justice, 1162 Court St. NE, Salem, OR 97301-4096, 1-877-877-9392, [help@oregonconsumer.gov](mailto:help@oregonconsumer.gov), [www.doj.state.or.us](http://www.doj.state.or.us).

**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 <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/pdf-0096-fair-credit-reporting-act.pdf>.



## TAKE ADVANTAGE OF YOUR IDENTITY MONITORING SERVICES

You have been provided with access to the following services from Kroll:

### **Single Bureau Credit Monitoring**

You will receive alerts when there are changes to your credit data—for instance, when a new line of credit is applied for in your name. If you do not recognize the activity, you'll have the option to call a Kroll fraud specialist, who will be able to help you determine if it is an indicator of identity theft.

### **Web Watcher**

Web Watcher monitors internet sites where criminals may buy, sell, and trade personal identity information. An alert will be generated if evidence of your personal identity information is found.

### **Public Persona**

Public Persona monitors and notifies when names, aliases, and addresses become associated with your Social Security number. If information is found, you will receive an alert.

### **Quick Cash Scan**

Quick Cash Scan monitors short-term and cash-advance loan sources. You will receive an alert when a loan is reported, and you can call a Kroll fraud specialist for more information.

### **\$1 Million Identity Fraud Loss Reimbursement**

Reimburses you for out-of-pocket expenses totaling up to \$1 million in covered legal costs and expenses for any one stolen identity event. All coverage is subject to the conditions and exclusions in the policy.

### **Fraud Consultation**

You have unlimited access to consultation with a Kroll fraud specialist. Support includes showing you the most effective ways to protect your identity, explaining your rights and protections under the law, assistance with fraud alerts, and interpreting how personal information is accessed and used, including investigating suspicious activity that could be tied to an identity theft event.

### **Identity Theft Restoration**

If you become a victim of identity theft, an experienced Kroll licensed investigator will work on your behalf to resolve related issues. You will have access to a dedicated investigator who understands your issues and can do most of the work for you. Your investigator will be able to dig deep to uncover the scope of the identity theft, and then work to resolve it.

Kroll's activation website is only compatible with the current version or one version earlier of Chrome, Firefox, Safari and Edge.

To receive credit services, you must be over the age of 18 and have established credit in the U.S., have a Social Security number in your name, and have a U.S. residential address associated with your credit file.