



People. Service. Performance.

March 6, 2017

7301 Parkway Drive  
Hanover, MD 21076  
410.579.3000 TEL  
410.579.3618 FAX

**VIA CERTIFIED MAIL  
RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

Maryland Office of the Attorney General  
c/o Mr. Jeff Karberg  
200 St. Paul Place  
Baltimore, MD 21202

RECEIVED  
OFF OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
2017 MAR 16 P 12:32

**Re: Disclosure of Personally Identifiable Information**

Dear Mr. Karberg:

I write on behalf of Allegis Group, Inc. (“Company”) regarding a data security incident that may have exposed the personal information of 33 Maryland residents.

The Company contracts with Talx Corporation (“Talx”), a wholly owned subsidiary of Equifax Inc., to provide certain payroll-related services. The Company employees are able to access these payroll services through Talx’s online portal. On February 1, 2017, the Company and Equifax discovered that an unknown individual or individuals had reset the PIN to several Company employee accounts and then accessed those accounts without authorization. The Company and Talx promptly took steps to understand what happened, and concluded on February 22, 2017 that a total of 44 Company employee accounts may have been accessed without authorization, including the accounts of 33 Maryland residents. The personal information that was accessed may have included electronic copies of 2016 W-2 tax forms, names, addresses, employee identification numbers, social security numbers, financial information, and other employment related information.

Talx is coordinating implementation of additional security measures with the Company to help prevent recurrence of this type of incident. Talx and the Company have also reported this incident to federal law enforcement. To date, neither Talx nor the Company are aware of any other employee accounts that are affected.

On March 3, 2017, on our behalf, Talx notified the 33 Maryland residents by mail. An unaddressed copy of that notification is attached to this letter. The Company had previously provided information about the incident to the affected employees, and offered the employees a free subscription to an Equifax ID Patrol identity theft protection product for two (2) years. This product will provide the employees with comprehensive credit file monitoring and automated alerts of any key changes to their credit reports, as well as \$1 million in Identity Fraud Expense Coverage.

If you have any questions regarding this notification, please contact I. DeAndrei Drummond at (410) 579-6229.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "I. DeAndrei Drummond". The signature is stylized with a large initial "I" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Irvin DeAndrei Drummond  
Assistant General Counsel



March 3, 2017

NAME  
ADDRESS  
CITY, STATE, ZIP

**RE: Data Security Incident**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

We are writing to tell you about a data security incident involving the unauthorized access to electronic copies of your W-2 tax form. We take the protection and proper use of your information very seriously. For this reason, we are contacting you directly to explain the circumstances of the incident.

**What Happened**

Your employer, Allegis Group, Inc., has contracted with Talx Corporation (“Talx”), a wholly owned subsidiary of Equifax Inc., to provide payroll-related services that you are able to access through the intranet as well as Talx’s website [www.mytaxform.com](http://www.mytaxform.com) (“online portal”). A user reset the PIN to access your account through the online portal and then accessed your online account on [date]. Afterward, Talx determined that this PIN reset and account access was unauthorized. Upon learning of the unauthorized access, Talx promptly took steps to understand what happened, and concluded that the unauthorized user was able to reset your PIN and successfully answer personal questions about you. Talx was not the source of any of the information used to reset your PIN and access your account.

**What Information Was Involved**

The unauthorized individual accessed an electronic copy of your 2016 W-2 tax form.

**What We Are Doing**

Talx is coordinating implementation of additional security measures with your employer to help prevent recurrence of this type of incident. We also reported this incident to federal law enforcement.

In addition, Talx is offering you two years of ID Patrol identity protection service **at no cost to you**, which your employer has already provided to you by separate communication.

## **What You Can Do**

Because your W-2 tax form was accessed by the unauthorized individual, it is possible that a fraudulent tax return could be filed in your name. Therefore, we strongly recommend that you contact the Internal Revenue Service and your state tax agency as soon as possible to report this incident.

**Internal Revenue Service (IRS):** You may contact the IRS Identity Protection Specialized Unit at 1-800-908-4490. The IRS may request that you file IRS Form 14039 (which is available at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/f14039.pdf>). For additional information from the IRS about identity theft, you may visit <https://www.irs.gov/uac/Taxpayer-Guide-to-Identity-Theft>.

**State Tax Agencies:** Information on how to contact your state tax agency may be found by going to <http://www.taxadmin.org/state-tax-agencies>.

Finally, we urge you to enroll in Equifax's ID Patrol identity protection service. Even if you choose not to enroll in Equifax's ID Patrol identity protection service, there are other steps you can take to help protect yourself. Please see the information in the "Identity Theft Prevention Tips" attachment about how you can obtain a free copy of your credit report and place a fraud alert and/or credit freeze on your credit report.

## **For More Information**

We deeply regret that this incident occurred and are committed to ensuring that your personal information remains protected. If you have any questions, please call Talx at 800-996-7566 from Monday-Friday, between the hours of 7am and 8pm CST.

Sincerely,

Talx Corporation

Attachment: Identity Theft Prevention Tips

### **Identity Theft Prevention Tips**

We recommend that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing account statements and monitoring your credit reports. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each company listed below once every 12 months by requesting your report online at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or mailing an 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 by contacting any of the credit reporting agencies below:

Equifax  
PO Box 740241  
Atlanta, GA 30374  
[www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)  
888-766-0008

Experian  
PO Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
[www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)  
888-397-3742

TransUnion  
PO Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016  
[www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)  
800-680-7289

If you believe you are the victim of identity theft, you should contact the proper law enforcement authorities, including local law enforcement, and you should consider contacting the Office of the State of Maryland Attorney General and/or the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC"). You may also contact the FTC to obtain additional information about avoiding identity theft.

**Office of the State of Maryland Attorney General**  
200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-888-743-0023  
[www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov)

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

You may obtain information from the FTC and the credit reporting agencies listed above about placing a fraud alert and/or credit freeze on your credit report.