

## **Notice of Data Security Incident**

April 5 2023 – Bay Shore Brightwaters Rescue Ambulance, Inc. ("BSBRA") is providing notice of a recent incident that may involve the personal and protected health information of some of our patients. Please note the confidentiality, privacy, and security of patient information in BSBRA's care is one of our highest priorities, and we take this incident very seriously. At this time, we have no evidence that anyone's information has been misused as a result of this incident.

BSBRA is providing details about the events, steps that we are taking in response, and resources available to individuals to protect against the potential misuse of their information. BSBRA is providing this notice for those individuals who may have been impacted by the incident and BSBRA does not have a current mailing address for.

What Happened: On or about April 25, 2022, BSBRA confirmed a compromise to its email environment, which may have resulted in the inadvertent exposure of personal information. We have since worked diligently with a third-party forensic investigator to determine what happened and what information was involved as a result of this Incident. The forensic investigation concluded that between February 16, 2022 and February 22, 2022 BSBRA's email environment was accessed by an unauthorized user.

Based upon the results of the forensic investigation, BSBRA initiated a review of the information maintained within the compromised email accounts for purposes of providing notification to the individuals whose information as impacted as a result of the Incident. On July 28, 2022, BSBRA concluded its initial review of the compromised email accounts. Based upon the results of its initial review, on December 6, 2023, BSBRA mailed a first round of notice letters to the individuals whose information was impacted as a result of the Incident. Upon further investigation, BSBRA discovered on March 8, 2023, that additional health information was impacted as a result of the Incident. Based upon the subsequent review, BSBRA is providing this notice the additional individuals whose information may have been impacted as a result of the Incident and BSBRA does not have a current mailing address for.

What Information Was Involved: The types of information stored on the impacted systems includes: individuals' names, addresses, dates of birth, social security numbers, driver's license or other state ID numbers, treatment and diagnostic information, health insurance information, health provider information, prescription information, and incidental health information. Please note that at this time, BSBRA has no reason to believe that anyone's information has been misused as a result of this incident.

What We Are Doing: BSBRA takes the security of all personal information and protected health information in its possession very seriously and is taking additional measures to protect this

## WEBSITE NOTICE

information. Since the incident, BSBRA has taken measures to increase the security of its email environment and computer systems.

Please note that not all individuals had information related to their Social Security number, drivers' license number, or health information affected. BSBRA is in the process of determining which individuals' information was impacted as a result of the incident. Upon completion of its investigation, affected individuals will be notified by mail of information that was impacted.

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.

Again, at this time, we have not received any reports of related identity theft since the date of the Incident.

**For More Information**: We recognize that you may have questions not addressed in this notice. If you have additional questions, please do not hesitate to call 1-800-405-6108 Monday through Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Eastern Time, except holidays.

BSBRA sincerely regrets any inconvenience that this incident may cause its patients and remains dedicated to ensuring the privacy and security of all information in its control.

Sincerely,

Peter Klopsis President, Board of Directors

## **Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information**

**Credit Reports:** You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies. To order your free credit report, please visit www.annualcreditreport.com, or call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228. You can also order your annual free credit report by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281.

**Fraud Alerts:** You can place fraud alerts with the three credit bureaus by phone or online. A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you, before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit. As of September 21, 2018, initial fraud alerts last for one year. Victims of identity theft can also get an extended fraud alert for seven years.

Experian
P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
1-888-397-3742

**TransUnion**P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016
1-800-680-7289

**Equifax**P.O. Box 105069
Atlanta, GA 30348
1-800-525-6285

www.experian.com/fraud/center.html

www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts

https://www.equifax.com/personal/credireport-services/credit-fraud-alerts/

**Monitoring:** You should always remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and by monitoring your credit report for suspicious or unusual activity.

Security Freeze: You have the right to place a security freeze on your credit report. A security freeze is intended to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. To place a security freeze on your credit report, you need to make a request to each consumer reporting agency. You may make that request by certified mail, overnight mail, regular stamped mail, or by following the instructions found at the websites listed below. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse or a minor under the age of 16, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, display your name and current mailing address, and the date of issue. As of September 21, 2018, it is free to place, lift, or remove a security freeze. You may also place a security freeze for children under the age of 16. You may obtain a free security freeze by contacting any one or more of the following national consumer reporting agencies:

Experian
P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
1-888-397-3742
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**TransUnion**P.O. Box 160
Woodlyn, PA 19094
1-888-909-8872

Equifax
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788
1-888-298-0045

www.experian.com/freeze/center.html

 $\underline{www.transunion.com/credit-freeze} \quad \underline{https://www.equifax.com/personal/cr}$ 

edit-report-services/credit-freeze/

File Police Report: You have the right to file or obtain a police report if you experience identity

fraud. Please note that in order to file a crime report or incident report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide proof that you have been a victim. A police report is often required to dispute fraudulent items. You can generally report suspected incidents of identity theft to local law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

FTC and Attorneys General: 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, 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. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement.

For residents of *Iowa*: State law advises you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

**For residents of** *Massachusetts*: It is required by state law that you are informed of your right to obtain a police report filed in regard to this incident. If you are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of it.

For residents of New Mexico: State law advises you to review personal account statements and credit reports, as applicable, to detect errors resulting from the security breach. 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 to the Fair Credit Reporting Act at www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\_cfpb\_summary\_your-rights-underfcra.pdf or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

**For residents of** *Oregon***:** State law advises you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, including the Attorney General, and the Federal Trade Commission.

<u>For residents of *Rhode Island*</u>: It is required by state law that you are informed of your right to file or obtain a police report in regard to this incident.

For residents of Arizona, Colorado, District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, and Rhode Island: You can obtain information from the Offices of the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft.

**Federal Trade Commission -** Consumer Response Center: 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20580; 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338); www.identitytheft.gov

Arizona Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection & Advocacy Section, 2005 North Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004 1-602-542-5025

Colorado Office of the Attorney General Consumer Protection 1300 Broadway, 9th Floor, Denver, CO 80203 1-720-508-6000 www.coag.gov

**District of Columbia Office of the Attorney General** – Office of Consumer Protection: 400 6th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001; 202-727-3400; www.oag.dc.gov

Illinois office of the Attorney General - 100 West Randolph Street, Chicago, IL 60601; 1-866-999-5630; www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov

**Maryland Office of the Attorney General -** Consumer Protection Division: 200 St. Paul Place, 16<sup>th</sup> floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-888-743-0023; www.oag.state.md.us

**New York Office of Attorney General** - Consumer Frauds & Protection: The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224; 1-800-771-7755; https://ag.ny.gov/consumer-frauds/identity-theft

**North Carolina Office of the Attorney General -** Consumer Protection Division: 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699; 1-877-566-7226; www.ncdoj.com

**Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General -** Consumer Protection: 150 South Main St., Providence RI 02903; 1-401-274-4400; www.riag.ri.gov