



Secure Processing Center
P.O. Box 3826
Suwanee, GA 30024

RECEIVED

MAY 24 2024

DEPT. OF CONSUMER
AFFAIRS

<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>
<<Address 1>>
<<Address 2>>
<<Address 3>>
<<City>><<State>><<Zip>>
<<Country>>

<<Date>>

We are writing to inform you of an incident that involved some of your information. This letter explains the incident, measures we have taken, and steps you may consider taking.

We recently detected and took measures to address an incident that involved unauthorized access to our network. A cybersecurity firm was engaged to assist in an investigation. That investigation determined that there was unauthorized access to certain folders in our network on February 7, 2024. We reviewed the files in those folders, and on March 13, 2024, determined that one or more files contained your name, financial account number, and Social Security number.

We have arranged for you to receive a complimentary one-year membership with **Identity Defense Total**. This product helps detect any misuse of your personal information and provides you with identity protection services that focus on immediate identification and resolution of any instance of identity theft. **Identity Defense Total** is at no cost to you, and enrolling in this program will not affect your credit score. In addition, it is always advisable to be vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing your account statements and free credit reports for any unauthorized activity. You should immediately report any suspicious activity to SouthState or any other financial institution. For more information on **Identity Defense Total**, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary one-year membership, please reference the enclosed information.

SouthState is actively taking steps to further enhance our existing security measures to help protect against an incident like this happening again. Please reference the enclosures included with this letter for additional steps and guidance to further protect your information. If you have any additional questions, please call us at 844-900-6425, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time. We regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may have caused and look forward to serving your banking needs in the future.



<<First Name>> <<Last Name>>
Enter your Activation Code: [Redacted]
Enrollment Deadline: <<Enrollment Deadline>>
Service Term: <<CM Duration>>*

Identity Defense Total

Key Features

- 3-Bureau Credit Monitoring
- Monthly Credit Score and Tracker (VantageScore 3.0)
- Real-Time Authentication Alerts
- High-Risk Transaction Monitoring
- Address Change Monitoring
- Dark Web Monitoring
- Wallet Protection
- Security Freeze Assist
- \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance**

Enrollment Instructions

To enroll in Identity Defense, visit <https://app.identitydefense.com/enrollment/activate/sout>

- 1. Enter your unique Activation Code** [Redacted]
Enter your Activation Code and click 'Redeem Code'.
- 2. Create Your Account**
Enter your email address, create your password, and click 'Create Account'.
- 3. Register**
Enter your legal name, home address, phone number, date of birth, Social Security Number, and click 'Complete Account'.
- 4. Complete Activation**
Click 'Continue to Dashboard' to finish enrolling.

The deadline to enroll is <<Enrollment Deadline>>. After <<Enrollment Deadline>>, the enrollment process will close, and your Identity Defense code will no longer be active. If you do not enroll by <<Enrollment Deadline>>, you will not be able to take advantage of Identity Defense, so please enroll before the deadline.

If you need assistance with the enrollment process or have questions regarding Identity Defense, please call Identity Defense directly at 1.866.622.9303.

*Service Term begins on the date of enrollment, provided that the enrollment takes place during the approved enrollment period.

**Identity Theft Insurance is underwritten by insurance company subsidiaries or affiliates of American International Group, Inc. The description herein is a summary and intended for informational purposes only and does not include all terms, conditions, and exclusions of the policies described. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions.

ADDITIONAL STEPS YOU CAN TAKE

We remind you it is always advisable to be vigilant for incidents of fraud or identity theft by reviewing your account statements and free credit reports for any unauthorized activity over the next 12 to 24 months. You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, once every 12 months from each of the three nationwide credit reporting companies. To order your annual free credit report, please visit www.annualcreditreport.com or call toll free at 1-877-322-8228. Contact information for the three nationwide credit reporting companies is as follows:

- **Equifax**, PO Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374, www.equifax.com, 1-888-378-4329
- **Experian**, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com, 1-888-397-3742
- **TransUnion**, PO Box 1000, Chester, PA 19016, www.transunion.com, 1-800-916-8800

If you believe you are the victim of identity theft or have reason to believe your personal information has been misused, you should immediately contact the Federal Trade Commission and/or the Attorney General's office in your state. You can obtain information from these sources about steps an individual can take to avoid identity theft as well as information about fraud alerts and security freezes. You should also contact your local law enforcement authorities and file a police report. Obtain a copy of the police report in case you are asked to provide copies to creditors to correct your records. Contact information for the Federal Trade Commission is as follows:

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

Fraud Alerts: There are two types of general fraud alerts you can place on your credit report to put your creditors on notice that you may be a victim of fraud—an initial alert and an extended alert. You may ask that an initial fraud alert be placed on your credit report if you suspect you have been, or are about to be, a victim of identity theft. An initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for one year. You may have an extended alert placed on your credit report if you have already been a victim of identity theft with the appropriate documentary proof. An extended fraud alert stays on your credit report for seven years. To place a fraud alert on your credit reports, contact one of the nationwide credit bureaus. A fraud alert is free. The credit bureau you contact must tell the other two, and all three will place an alert on their versions of your report. For those in the military who want to protect their credit while deployed, an Active-Duty Military Fraud Alert lasts for one year and can be renewed for the length of your deployment. The credit bureaus will also take you off their marketing lists for pre-screened credit card offers for two years unless you ask them not to.

Credit or Security Freezes: You have the right to put a credit freeze, also known as a security freeze, on your credit file, free of charge, which makes it more difficult for identity thieves to open new accounts in your name. That's because most creditors need to see your credit report before they approve a new account. If they cannot see your report, they may not extend the credit.

How do I place a freeze on my credit reports? There is no fee to place or lift a security freeze. Unlike a fraud alert, you must separately place a security freeze on your credit file at each credit reporting company. For information and instructions to place a security freeze, contact each of the credit reporting agencies at the addresses below:

- **Experian Security Freeze**, PO Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013, www.experian.com
- **TransUnion Security Freeze**, PO Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094, www.transunion.com
- **Equifax Security Freeze**, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, www.equifax.com

You'll need to supply your name, address, date of birth, Social Security number and other personal information.

After receiving your freeze request, each credit bureau will provide you with a unique PIN (personal identification number) or password. Keep the PIN or password in a safe place. You will need it if you choose to lift the freeze.

How do I lift a freeze? A freeze remains in place until you ask the credit bureau to temporarily lift it or remove it altogether. If the request is made online or by phone, a credit bureau must lift a freeze within one hour. If the request is made by mail, then the bureau must lift the freeze no later than three business days after getting your request.

If you opt for a temporary lift because you are applying for credit or a job, and you can find out which credit bureau the business will contact for your file, you can save some time by lifting the freeze only at that particular credit bureau. Otherwise, you need to make the request with all three credit bureaus.

SouthState Bank is located at 1101 First Street South, Winter Haven, Florida 33880 and can be reached at (800) 277-2175.

Additional information for residents of the following states:

Maryland: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: Maryland Attorney General's Office, 200 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, MD 21202, 1-888-743-0023 / 1-410-576-6300, www.marylandattorneygeneral.com

New York: You may contact and obtain information from these state agencies: New York Department of State Division of Consumer Protection, One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12231-0001, 518-474-8583 / 1-800-697-1220, <http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection>; and New York State Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341, 1-800-771-7755, <https://ag.ny.gov>

North Carolina: You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: North Carolina Attorney General's Office, 9001 Mail Service Centre, Raleigh, NC 27699, 1-919-716-6000 / 1-877-566-7226, www.ncdoj.gov

Rhode Island: This incident involves <<RI Count>> individuals in Rhode Island. Under Rhode Island law, you have the right to file and obtain a copy of a police report. You also have the right to request a security freeze, as described above. You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *Rhode Island Attorney General's Office*, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, 1-401-274-4400, www.riag.ri.gov

West Virginia: You have the right to ask that nationwide consumer reporting agencies place "fraud alerts" in your file to let potential creditors and others know that you may be a victim of identity theft, as described above. You also have a right to place a security freeze on your credit report, as described above.

A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act:

The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Your major rights under the FCRA are summarized below. For more information, including information about additional rights, go to www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street NW, Washington, DC 20552.

- You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.
- You have the right to know what is in your file.
- You have the right to ask for a credit score.
- You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.
- 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 reports to be provided to employers.
- You may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.
- You have a 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.
- You may seek damages from violators.
- Identity theft victims and active-duty military personnel have additional rights.