

## **Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Chicago - Notice of Data Privacy Event**

Catholic Charities Archdiocese of Chicago (“Catholic Charities”) recently concluded its investigation of a data security event that may have impacted individuals. Although Catholic Charities is unaware of any misuse of information in related to this event, it is providing information about the event, steps taken since initially discovering the activity, and resources available to individuals to help protect their information should they feel it is appropriate to do so.

***What Happened?*** On October 4, 2023, Catholic Charities became aware of suspicious activity in an employee’s email account and subsequently initiated an investigation into the activity. Through the investigation, Catholic Charities determined that a limited number of employee email accounts were accessed without authorization at various times between July 2023 and October 2023. Therefore, Catholic Charities conducted a comprehensive review of the content of the email accounts to assess what information was accessible and to whom it related. On February 7, 2024, Catholic Charities completed this review and then worked to identify accurate address information for the potentially impacted population. This process was completed on March 15, 2024 and at that time Catholic Charities began working toward notifying potentially affected individuals including mailing notification letters to any individuals for whom it had a postal address.

***What Information Was Affected?*** Although Catholic Charities cannot confirm whether an individual’s personal information was actually accessed or viewed by the unauthorized actor, we are providing this notification to individuals out of an abundance of caution. One or more of the following types of information related to certain individuals was present in the affected accounts, if provided to Catholic Charities: name, Social Security number, date of birth, driver’s license number, passport number, financial account information, medical information, medical record number, and/or username and password. If you believe you may have been impacted, you can contact our dedicated assistance line at 888-841-4782, Monday through Friday from 9:00AM to 9:00PM, EST.

***What Catholic Charities is Doing.*** Catholic Charities has strict security measures in place to protect the information in our care. Upon learning of this incident, Catholic Charities took steps to secure the impacted email accounts and implemented additional controls to mitigate the risk, or likelihood, of future incidents.

***What You Can Do.*** Catholic Charities sincerely regrets any inconvenience this event may have caused. Catholic Charities is providing notice of this event to all individuals whose personal information was involved where address information is available, along with information and steps potentially impacted individuals can take to better protect their information.

***For More Information.*** If you have questions, please contact our dedicated assistance line at 888-841-4782, Monday through Friday from 9:00AM to 9:00PM, EST.

Catholic Charities encourages all potentially impacted individuals to remain vigilant by reviewing account statements and monitoring free credit reports and Explanation of Benefits for suspicious activity and errors. Under U.S. law, a consumer is entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. To order your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also directly contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of your credit report.

Consumers have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is placed on a consumer’s credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer’s credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer’s identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud

alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one of the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, consumers have the right to place a “credit freeze” on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without the consumer’s express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on your credit report. To request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;
3. Date of birth;
4. Addresses for the prior two to five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill or telephone bill;
6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (state driver’s license or ID card, military identification, etc.); and
7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft if you are a victim of identity theft.

Should you wish to place a fraud alert or credit freeze, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

<b>Equifax</b>	<b>Experian</b>	<b>TransUnion</b>
<a href="https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/">https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/</a>	<a href="https://www.experian.com/help/">https://www.experian.com/help/</a>	<a href="https://www.transunion.com/credit-help">https://www.transunion.com/credit-help</a>
888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	833-395-6938
Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069	Experian Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016
Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788	Experian Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094

Consumers may further educate themselves regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps they can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus, the Federal Trade Commission, or their state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20580; [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov); 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and 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. Consumers can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Consumers have the right to file a police report if they ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, consumers will likely need to provide some proof that they have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and the relevant state Attorney General. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.