



**Baker&Hostetler LLP**

11601 Wilshire Boulevard  
Suite 1400  
Los Angeles, CA 90025-0509  
T 310.820.8800  
F 310.820.8859  
www.bakerlaw.com

M. Scott Koller  
direct dial: 310.979.8427  
mskoller@bakerlaw.com

October 20, 2021

**VIA E-MAIL (NDAG@ND.GOV)**

Office of the Attorney General  
State Capitol  
600 E. Boulevard Ave.  
Department 125  
Bismarck, ND 58505

*Re: Incident Notification*

Dear Sir or Madam:

We are writing on behalf of our client, Wallick & Volk, Inc. (“Wallick”) to notify your office of a security incident involving seven (7) North Dakota residents.

On August 5, 2021, Wallick & Volk, Inc. (“Wallick”) detected unauthorized access to certain devices in its network that resulted in the encryption of some of its systems. Upon identifying the malware, Wallick took steps to secure its network and launched an investigation with the assistance of a cybersecurity firm. Wallick also notified law enforcement and is assisting with their investigation. Through the investigation, Wallick identified unauthorized access to its systems between August 2-5, 2021.

On September 20, 2021, the investigation determined an unauthorized person accessed files and folders that contained personal information of seven (7) North Dakota residents, and the information included the individuals’ names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and other information related to accounts managed by Wallick. Wallick then worked to identify the individuals whose information was accessed as a result of the incident.

On October 12, 2021, Wallick started mailing notification letters to the seven (7) North Dakota residents via United States Postal Service First-Class mail in the same form as the

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enclosed letter.<sup>1</sup> Wallick is providing a telephone number for potentially affected individuals to call with any questions they may have about the incident. Wallick is offering notified individuals complimentary one-year memberships to identity monitoring services.

To help prevent this type of incident from happening again, Wallick is implementing additional security safeguards and further enhancing its already existing security protocols.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

*M. Scott Koller*

M. Scott Koller  
Partner

Enclosure

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<sup>1</sup> This report is not, and does not constitute, a waiver of Wallick's objection that North Dakota lacks personal jurisdiction over the company related to this matter.

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

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

Dear <<first\_name>> <<middle\_name>> <<last\_name>> <<suffix>>:

We are writing to inform you of an incident that may have involved some of your information. This letter explains the incident and measures we have taken, and provides some steps you can take in response.

### **What Happened?**

On August 5, 2021, Wallick & Volk Inc. experienced a cybersecurity incident involving malware, which encrypted some of our systems. Upon discovery, we quickly took steps to secure our network and launch an investigation with the assistance of cybersecurity professionals. We also notified law enforcement and are assisting with their investigation. Our forensic investigation has determined that an unauthorized party obtained access to certain data that was stored on our systems.

### **What Information Was Involved?**

We reviewed the data that was potentially accessed or acquired during the incident and, on September 20, 2021, determined that select servers/computers encrypted by the malware contained documents may have included your name, address, Social Security number, and other information related to your accounts managed by Wallick & Volk, Inc.

### **What Are We Doing?**

In response to the incident, we have taken steps to help prevent a similar incident from occurring in the future including updating user passwords and implementing additional security safeguards. Additionally, in an abundance of caution, we are offering you a complimentary one-year membership in Experian® IdentityWorks Credit 3B. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with identity protection services focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft. IdentityWorks is completely free to you and enrolling in this program will not hurt your credit score.

### **What You Can Do.**

We encourage you to sign up for the complimentary credit monitoring service. We also recommend that you remain vigilant to the possibility of fraud by reviewing your financial account statements and credit reports for any unauthorized activity over the next 12 to 24 months. You should immediately report any suspicious activity to your financial institution. **For more information on IdentityWorks Credit 3B, including instructions on how to activate your complimentary membership, as well as some additional steps you can take to help protect your information, please see the additional information provided with this letter.**

### For More Information.

We deeply regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause and take this matter seriously. If you have any questions, please call 1-???-???-???, Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Mountain Time, excluding major U.S. holidays.

Sincerely,



Brian Rogerson  
President, Wallick & Volk, Inc.

To help protect your identity, we are offering a **complimentary** one-year membership of Experian IdentityWorks Credit 3B. This product helps detect possible misuse of your personal information and provides you with superior identity protection support focused on immediate identification and resolution of identity theft.

### Activate IdentityWorks Credit 3B Now in Three Easy Steps

1. ENROLL by: <<b2b\_text\_1(Enrollment Deadline)>> (Your code will not work after this date.)
2. VISIT the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: <https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit>
3. PROVIDE the Activation Code: <<Activation Code s\_n>>

If you have questions about the product, need assistance with identity restoration or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at 877.288.8057. Be prepared to provide engagement number <<b2b\_text\_2(Engagement Number)>> as proof of eligibility for the identity restoration services by Experian.

### ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS CREDIT 3B MEMBERSHIP:

A credit card is **not** required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks Credit 3B. You can contact Experian **immediately without needing to enroll in the product** regarding any fraud issues. Identity Restoration specialists are available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.

Once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks, you will have access to the following additional features:

- **Experian credit report at signup:** See what information is associated with your credit file. Daily credit reports are available for online members only.\*
- **Credit Monitoring:** Actively monitors Experian, Equifax and Transunion files for indicators of fraud.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARE™:** You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **\$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance\*\*:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

**Activate your membership today at <https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit>  
or call 877.288.8057 to register with the activation code above.**

**What you can do to protect your information:** There are additional actions you can consider taking to reduce the chances of identity theft or fraud on your account(s). Please refer to [www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration](http://www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration) for this information. If you have any questions about IdentityWorks, need help understanding something on your credit report or suspect that an item on your credit report may be fraudulent, please contact Experian's customer care team at **877.288.8057**.

\* Offline members will be eligible to call for additional reports quarterly after enrolling.

\*\* The Identity Theft Insurance is underwritten and administered by American Bankers Insurance Company of Florida, an Assurant company. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage. Coverage may not be available in all jurisdictions. Please refer to the actual policies for terms, conditions, and exclusions of coverage.

## **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](http://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](http://www.equifax.com), 1-800-685-1111
- *Experian*, PO Box 2002, Allen, TX 75013, [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com), 1-888-397-3742
- *TransUnion*, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, [www.transunion.com](http://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.ftc.gov/idtheft](http://www.ftc.gov/idtheft)

### ***Fraud Alerts and Credit or Security Freezes:***

**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 can't 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](http://www.experian.com)
- **TransUnion Security Freeze**, PO Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016, [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)
- **Equifax Security Freeze**, PO Box 105788, Atlanta, GA 30348, [www.equifax.com](http://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.

Wallick & Volk, Inc. is located at 222 East 18th Street, Cheyenne, WY 82001.

**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](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore) or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., 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.

***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.oag.state.md.us](http://www.oag.state.md.us).

**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](http://www.ncdoj.gov).

**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>.

**Rhode Island:** This incident involves one individual 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](http://www.riag.ri.gov).