From: Parents - Lewis & Clark College

<parents@lclark.edu>
Date: March 7, 2023

(4/7/23) How to Access Credit Monitoring

Dear Parents,

The following message was shared with students on Thursday, 4/6/23, and we would like to share it with you as well.



# Dear LC Community,

We recently learned that the cybercriminals responsible for the recent security incident published some amount of Lewis & Clark data on a "dark web" website. We are currently working to retrieve the information and to determine the extent to which it includes any sensitive personal information. Due to how cybercriminals publish data, it may take time to determine the full scope and nature of this data. We will provide formal notification to any individuals whose protected information is found to have been compromised in the course of this investigation, in accordance with all applicable laws, once the investigation is complete.

In the meantime, we are offering free credit monitoring to current students and employees.

Students and employees, if you would like to sign up for credit monitoring services, please fill out this <u>short request form</u>. You will then be provided with an enrollment code and instructions on how you can activate the service.

Below are additional steps you can take to protect your information, irrespective of whether it was compromised in this incident. We encourage you to review and consider whether they are appropriate for you.

#### Placing a Fraud Alert on Your Credit File

You may place an initial one-year fraud alert on your credit files at no charge. A fraud alert tells creditors to contact you personally before they open any new accounts. To place a fraud alert, call any one of the three major credit bureaus at the numbers listed below. As soon as one credit bureau confirms your fraud alert, they will notify the others.

#### **Equifax**

P. O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348 <a href="https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts/">https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-fraud-alerts/</a> (800) 525-6285

# Experian

P. O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html (888) 397-3742

#### **TransUnion**

P. O. Box 6790 Fullerton, CA 92834-6790 https://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts (800) 680-7289

### Consider Placing a Security Freeze on Your Credit File.

If you are very concerned about becoming a victim of fraud or identity theft, you may also request a "security freeze" be placed on your credit file at no charge. A security freeze prohibits, with certain exceptions, the consumer reporting agencies from releasing your credit report or any information from it without your express authorization. You may place a security freeze on your credit report by contacting all three nationwide credit reporting companies at the numbers below and following the stated directions or by sending a request in writing, by mail, to all three credit reporting companies:

# **Equifax Security Freeze**

P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348

https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/

1-800-349-9960

# **Experian Security Freeze**

P.O. Box 9554 Allen, TX 75013 http://experian.com/freeze 1-888-397-3742

### **TransUnion Security Freeze**

P.O. Box 2000 Chester, PA 19016 http://www.transunion.com/securityfreeze 1-888-909-8872

# **Obtaining a Free Credit Report**

Under federal law, you are entitled to one free credit report every 12 months from each of the above three major nationwide credit reporting companies. Call 1-877-322-8228 or request your free credit reports online at <a href="https://www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a>. Once you receive your credit reports, review them for discrepancies. Identify any accounts you did not open or inquiries from creditors that you did not authorize. Verify all information is correct. If you have questions or notice incorrect information, contact the credit reporting company.

#### Additional Helpful Resources

Even if you do not find any suspicious activity on your initial credit reports, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends that you check your credit reports periodically. Checking your credit report periodically can help you spot problems and address them quickly.

If you find suspicious activity on your credit reports or have reason to believe your information is being misused, call your local law enforcement agency and file a police report. Be sure to obtain a copy of the police report, as many creditors will want the information it contains to absolve you of the fraudulent debts. You may also file a complaint with the FTC by contacting them on the web at <a href="https://www.ftc.gov/idtheft">www.ftc.gov/idtheft</a>, by phone at 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338), or by mail at Federal Trade Commission, Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. Your complaint will be added to the FTC's Identity Theft Data Clearinghouse, where it

will be accessible to law enforcement for their investigations. In addition, you may obtain information from the FTC about fraud alerts and security freezes.

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Thank you for your continued patience and understanding. We will continue to share information as we have it.

Sincerely,

The Executive Council