

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA

---

In the Matter of: )  
 )  
PROTECTING THE PERSONAL ) Administrative Order  
INFORMATION OF COURT USERS ) No. 2018 - 72  
AND NOTIFYING AFFECTED ) (Replacing Administrative  
PERSONS IN THE EVENT OF A ) Order No. 2008-68)  
SECURITY SYSTEM BREACH )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Administrative Order No. 2008-68 issued by this court required creation and adoption of a local policy for protection of confidential personal information and notification of affected persons in the event of a breach that exposes unencrypted or unredacted personal information not otherwise publicly available. A.R.S. § 18-552(O) requires courts to “create and maintain an information security policy that includes notification procedures for a security system breach” of the court. A.R.S. § 18-551(1) defines a security system breach as follows:

An unauthorized acquisition of and unauthorized access that materially compromises the security or confidentiality of unencrypted and unredacted computerized personal information maintained as part of a database of personal information regarding multiple individuals.

Personal information about court users is collected in the course of conducting the official business of the judiciary as required by law or as necessary or desirable to carry out judicial orders. Recent legislative changes (Law 2018, Ch. 177, HB 2154) have expanded the definition of personal information to include both of the following:

- (i) An individual’s first name or first initial and last name in combination with one or more specified data elements.
- (ii) An individual’s user name or e-mail address, in combination with a password or security question and answer, that allows access to an online account.

A.R.S. § 18-551(7)(a).

HB 2154 also greatly expanded the definition of “specified data element” to include any of the following:

- (a) An individual’s social security number.
- (b) The number on an individual’s driver license . . . or nonoperating identification license . . .

- (c) A private key that is unique to an individual and that is used to authenticate or sign an electronic record.
- (d) An individual's financial account number or credit or debit card number in combination with any security code, access code or password that would allow access to the individual's financial account.
- (e) An individual's health insurance identification number.
- (f) Information about an individual's medical or mental health treatment or diagnosis by a healthcare professional.
- (g) An individual's passport number.
- (h) An individual's taxpayer identification number or an identity protection personal identification number issued by the United States Internal Revenue Service.
- (i) Unique biometric data generated from a measurement or analysis of human body characteristics to authenticate an individual when the individual accesses an online account.

A.R.S. § 18-551(11).

The protection of confidential personal information and notification of affected persons in the event of a breach is of paramount importance to the public and the judiciary. Statewide policies are needed to define responsibility for notifying individuals who may be affected when the security of their personal information has been compromised.

Therefore, pursuant to Article VI, Section 3, of the Arizona Constitution,

IT IS ORDERED that not later than January 1, 2019, all courts shall revise their local policy complying with Administrative Order No. 2008-68 requiring protection of databases containing confidential personal information to incorporate the expanded definition of personal information in A.R.S. § 18-551(7) and (11). The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) shall revise the policy for the automation systems and centralized data it manages, with which courts using statewide systems will be expected to comply. Any individual court managing a local automation system or storing data locally or in the cloud shall adopt a policy governing security of those databases. At a minimum, the revised policies shall include:

- 1. Responsibility for judicial department notification.** Any court employee who downloads all or part of a database of confidential personal information regarding multiple individuals onto an end-user storage device other than a court computer or court-provided mobile device, shall provide notice to his or her supervisor or other appropriate person in the chain of authority if a breach may have occurred. An end-user storage device may include a personal PC, phone, or flash drive, or an off-site data storage system such as a web-based data repository or "cloud storage" location other than the court's OneDrive for Business. The court administrator or clerk of court responsible for the data system that is suspected of being breached shall notify the presiding judge of the court and the Administrative Director within 24 hours.

- 2. Breach notification procedures.** The court administrator or clerk of court responsible for the automated system or storage device that is the object of the suspected breach shall determine whether a breach has occurred and notify those affected if a breach has occurred. The person responsible for providing notice of the breach shall provide the required notice in the most expeditious manner possible and without delay, subject to the needs of law enforcement if a criminal investigation is pending, and within 45 days of the positive determination of the breach. Sample notification letters are attached to this order. e-Mail notices may be used where the court has addresses. Telephonic notice may be used if contact is made directly with the affected individuals and not through a prerecorded message.
  
- 3. Large scope notification instructions.** When more than 1000 individuals are affected, the court must also notify the three largest nationwide consumer reporting agencies and the Arizona Attorney General's Office as required by § 18-552(B)(2)(b). When the cost of individual notices exceeds \$50,000.00 or the breach affects more than 100,000 individuals, the local court shall coordinate such notification through the AOC, which shall notify the public using conspicuous posting of the notice on the AZCourts.gov website for at least 45 days and shall provide written notice to the Arizona Attorney General's Office as required by § 18-552(F)(4)(a).

Dated this 8th day of August, 2018.

---

SCOTT BALES  
Chief Justice

**SAMPLE LETTER 1**  
**Data Acquired: Credit Card Number or Financial Account Number Only**

Dear :

We are writing to you because of a recent incident involving a breach of security for an electronic database at *[name of court or department]* containing *[specific category of personal information]* on *[approximate date]*.

*[Describe what happened in general terms, what type of personal information was involved, and what you are doing in response.]*

To protect yourself from the possibility of identity theft, we recommend that you immediately contact the credit card or financial account issuer for the account that may have been the subject of unauthorized access and ask them to either close your account or provide you with a new account number. Tell them that your account may have been compromised. If you want to open a new account, ask the company to give you a PIN or password. This will help control access to the new account in the future.

We also recommend that you place a fraud alert on your credit files. A fraud alert lets creditors know to contact you before opening new accounts. Just call any one of the three credit reporting agencies at a number or address below.

Experian  
888-397-3742  
475 Anton Blvd.  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Equifax Information Services  
888-766-0008  
P. O. Box 740256  
Atlanta, GA 30374

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

For more information on identity theft, we suggest that you visit the Office of the Attorney General at [http://www.azag.gov/cybercrime/ID\\_Theft.html](http://www.azag.gov/cybercrime/ID_Theft.html); the Department of Public Safety at <http://www.azvictims.com/identity/default.asp>; or the Federal Trade Commission at [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft) or (202) 326-2222 or 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. If there is anything *[name of department]* can do to assist you, please call *[phone number]*.

*[Closing]*

**SAMPLE LETTER 2**  
**Data Acquired: Driver's License or Arizona ID Card Number**

Dear :

We are writing to you because of a recent incident involving a breach of security for an electronic database at *[name of court or department]* on *[approximate date]*.

*[Describe what happened in general terms, what kind of personal information was involved, and what you are doing in response.]*

Since your Driver's License *[or Arizona Identification Card]* number was involved, we recommend that you immediately contact your local Dept. of Motor Vehicles office to report the theft. Ask them to put a fraud alert on your license. Then call the toll-free MVD Customer Service Center at 800-251-5866 for additional information.

If your Driver's License or Arizona ID Card Number is also your Social Security Number, we recommend that you place a fraud alert on your credit files. A fraud alert lets creditors know to contact you before opening new accounts. Just call any one of the three credit reporting agencies at a number below. This will let you automatically place fraud alerts with all of the agencies. You will then receive letters from all of them with instructions on how to get a free copy of your credit report from each.

Experian  
888-397-3742  
475 Anton Blvd.  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Equifax Information Services  
888-766-0008  
P. O. Box 740256  
Atlanta, GA 30374

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

Look over your credit reports carefully when you receive them. Look for accounts you did not open. Look for inquiries from creditors that you did not initiate. Look for personal information, such as home address and Social Security number that is not accurate. If you see anything you do not understand, call the credit reporting agency at the telephone number on the report.

If you do find suspicious activity on your credit reports, call your local police or sheriff's office and file a report of identity theft. *[Or, if appropriate, give contact number for law enforcement agency investigating the incident for you.]* Get a copy of the police report. You may need to give copies to creditors to clear up your records.

Even if you do not find any signs of fraud on your reports, we recommend that you check your credit reports every three months for the next year. Just call one of the numbers above to order your reports and keep the fraud alert in place.

For more information on identity theft, we suggest that you visit the Office of the Attorney General

at [http://www.azag.gov/cybercrime/ID Theft.html](http://www.azag.gov/cybercrime/ID_Theft.html); the Department of Public Safety at <http://www.azvictims.com/identity/default.asp>; or the Federal Trade Commission at [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft) or (202) 326-2222 or 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. If there is anything [*name of your department*] can do to assist you, please call [*phone number*].

[*Closing*]

**SAMPLE LETTER 3**  
**Data Acquired: Social Security Number or Taxpayer Identification Number**

Dear :

We are writing to you because of a recent security incident at *[name of court or department]* that took place on *[approximate date]*. *[Describe what happened in general terms, what kind of personal information was involved, and what you are doing in response.]*

To protect yourself from the possibility of identity theft, we recommend that you place a fraud alert on your credit files. A fraud alert lets creditors know to contact you before opening new accounts. Just call any one of the three credit reporting agencies at a number below. This will let you automatically place fraud alerts with all of the agencies. You will then receive letters from all of them, with instructions on how to get a free copy of your credit report from each.

Experian  
888-397-3742  
475 Anton Blvd.  
Costa Mesa, CA 92626

Equifax Information Services  
888-766-0008  
P. O. Box 740256  
Atlanta, GA 30374

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

Look over your credit reports carefully when you receive them. Look for accounts you did not open. Look for inquiries from creditors that you did not initiate. And look for personal information, such as home address, that is not accurate. If you see anything you do not understand, call the credit reporting agency at the telephone number on the report.

If you do find suspicious activity on your credit reports, call your local police or sheriff's office and file a police report of identity theft. *[Or, if appropriate, give contact number for law enforcement agency investigating the incident for you.]* Get a copy of the police report. You may need to give copies of the police report to creditors to clear up your records.

Even if you do not find any signs of fraud on your reports, we recommend that you check your credit report every three months for the next year. Just call one of the numbers above to order your reports and keep the fraud alert in place.

For more information on identity theft, we suggest that you visit the Office of the Attorney General at [http://www.azag.gov/cybercrime/ID\\_Theft.html](http://www.azag.gov/cybercrime/ID_Theft.html); the Department of Public Safety at <http://www.azvictims.com/identity/default.asp>; or the Federal Trade Commission at [www.consumer.gov/idtheft](http://www.consumer.gov/idtheft) or (202) 326-2222 or 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. If there is anything *[name of your department]* can do to assist you, please call *[phone number]*.

*[Closing]*

#### **SAMPLE LETTER 4**

##### **Data Acquired: User Name or e-Mail Address with Password or Security Question/Answer**

Dear :

We are writing to you because of a recent incident involving a breach of security for an electronic database storing your login credentials for an online application at [*name of court or department*] on [*approximate date*].

[*Describe what happened in general terms, what specific information was involved, and what you are doing in response.*]

We have forced a password reset for your account effective upon your next login. To protect yourself from the possibility of other online accounts having matching user IDs and passwords or security questions/answers being taken over, we recommend that you immediately change passwords and security questions for any website that makes use of the same user name, password, or security questions/answers.

Protection of your online account information is a high priority for us. If there is anything [*name of department*] can do to further assist you, please call [*phone number*].

[*Closing*]