



## NOTICE OF DATA BREACH

**Baltimore, Maryland – February 15, 2024** - St. Mary's Seminary and University ("St. Mary's") is writing to inform you of a recent data security incident that may have resulted in the disclosure of your personal information. While we are unaware of any fraudulent misuse of your personal information at this time, we are providing you with details about the event, steps we are taking in response, and resources available to help you protect yourself from the possibility of identity theft and fraud, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

### **What Happened?**

On December 31, 2023, St. Mary's became aware of a suspicious activity on its network. Upon discovery of this incident, St. Mary's immediately disconnected all access to the network and promptly engaged a specialized third-party cybersecurity firm and IT personnel to assist with securing the environment, as well as, to conduct a comprehensive forensic investigation to determine the nature and scope of the incident. While the forensic investigation remains ongoing, St. Mary's found evidence to suggest some files were accessed by an unauthorized actor.

Based on these findings, St. Mary's began reviewing the affected systems to identify the specific individuals and the types of information that may have been compromised. While this process remains ongoing, St. Mary's will notify affected individuals by mail as the information becomes available.

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

Based on the investigation, the following information related to potentially impacted individuals may have been subject to unauthorized access: name; address; Social Security Number, financial account information; and date of birth. In addition, student identification number may have been accessed for those students who were potentially impacted. The potentially impacted information varies by individual.

At this time, we are not aware of your information being used in an unauthorized manner,

### **What We Are Doing:**

Data privacy and security is among St. Mary's highest priorities, and we are committed to doing everything we can to protect the privacy and security of the personal information in our care. Upon discovery of the Incident, St. Mary's moved quickly to investigate and respond to the Incident and assessed the security of its systems. Specifically, St. Mary's engaged a specialized cybersecurity firm and IT personnel to conduct a forensic investigation to determine the nature and scope of the Incident. Additionally, St. Mary's took the following steps, including, but not limited to: disconnecting all access to the network; reset credentials; installed SentinelOne and Huntress on all end points.

Affected individuals will be notified by mail with enrollment information. Depending on what information potentially impacted, we may also be providing affected individuals with complimentary credit monitoring and identity theft restoration services, as necessary.

**What You Can Do:**

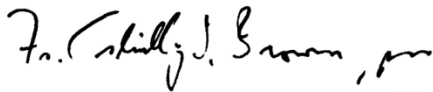
We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious or unauthorized activity. Additionally, security experts suggest that you contact your financial institution and all major credit bureaus to inform them of such a breach and then take whatever steps are recommended to protect your interests, including the possible placement of a fraud alert on your credit file. Please scroll down below to see *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information*, to learn more about how to protect against the possibility of information misuse.

**For More Information:**

We recognize that you may have questions not addressed in this notice. Please call the help line 1-800-405-6108 for additional information about this Incident. Representatives are available for 90 days from the date of this letter, to assist you with questions regarding this incident, between the hours of 8:00 am to 8:00 pm Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding U.S. holidays.

St. Mary's apologizes and sincerely regrets any concern or inconvenience this matter may cause and remains dedicated to ensuring the privacy and security of all information in our control.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rev. Phillip J. Brown, P.S.S.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rev. Phillip J. Brown, P.S.S.

President Rector

St. Mary's Seminary and University

## Steps You Can Take to Protect Your Information

**Credit Reports:** You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies. To order your free credit report, please visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), or call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228. You can also order your annual free credit report by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports>) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281.

**Fraud Alerts:** You can place fraud alerts with the three credit bureaus by phone or online. A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you, before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit. As of September 21, 2018, initial fraud alerts last for one year. Victims of identity theft can also get an extended fraud alert for seven years.

### Experian

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/fraud/center.html](http://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html)

### TransUnion

P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19016  
1-800-680-7289

[www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts](http://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts)

### Equifax

P.O. Box 105069  
Atlanta, GA 30348  
1-888-525-6285

<https://www.equifax.com/personal/cred>

**Monitoring:** You should always remain vigilant and monitor your accounts for suspicious or unusual activity.

**Security Freeze:** You also have the right to place a security freeze on your credit report. A security freeze is intended to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. To place a security freeze on your credit report, you need to make a request to each consumer reporting agency. You may make that request by certified mail, overnight mail, regular stamped mail, or by following the instructions found at the websites listed below. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse or a minor under the age of 16, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, display your name and current mailing address, and the date of issue. As of September 21, 2018, it is free to place, lift, or remove a security freeze. You may also place a security freeze for children under the age of 16. You may obtain a free security freeze by contacting any one or more of the following national consumer reporting agencies listed above.

### Experian

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/freeze/center.html](http://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html)

### TransUnion

P.O. Box 160  
Woodlyn, PA 19094  
1-888-909-8872

[www.transunion.com/credit-freeze](http://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze)

### Equifax

P.O. Box 105788  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788  
1-888-298-0045

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

**File Police Report:** You have the right to file or obtain a police report if you experience identity fraud. Please note that in order to file a crime report or incident report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide proof that you have been a victim. A police report is often required to dispute fraudulent items. You can generally report suspected incidents of identity theft to local law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

**FTC and Attorneys General:** You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps you can take to protect yourself, by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission can be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov), 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338), 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. You can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement.

**For residents of Hawaii, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming:** It is recommended by state law that you remain vigilant for incidents of fraud and identity theft by reviewing credit card account statements and monitoring your credit report for unauthorized activity.

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**For residents of Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Maryland, Missouri, New Mexico, North Carolina, Oregon, and West Virginia:** It is required by state laws to inform you that you may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies. To order your free credit report, please visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com), or call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228. You can also order your annual free credit report by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports>) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281.

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**For residents of Iowa:** State law advises you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement or to the Attorney General.

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**For residents of New Mexico:** State law advises you to review personal account statements and credit reports, as applicable, to detect errors resulting from the security breach.

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**For residents of Oregon:** State law advises you to report any suspected identity theft to law enforcement, including the Attorney General, and the Federal Trade Commission.

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**For residents of District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, New York, North Carolina, and Rhode Island:** You can obtain information from the Offices of the Attorney General and the Federal Trade Commission about fraud alerts, security freezes, and steps you can take toward preventing identity theft.

**District of Columbia Office of the Attorney General** - 400 6th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001; 202-727-3400; [www.oag.dc.gov](http://www.oag.dc.gov)

**Illinois office of the Attorney General** - 100 West Randolph Street, Chicago, IL 60601; 1-866-999-5630; [www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov](http://www.illinoisattorneygeneral.gov)

**Maryland Office of the Attorney General - Consumer Protection Division:** 200 St. Paul Place, 16<sup>th</sup> floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-888-743-0023; [www.oag.state.md.us](http://www.oag.state.md.us)

**New York Office of Attorney General** - Consumer Frauds & Protection: The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224; 1-800-771-7755; <https://ag.ny.gov/consumer-frauds/identity-theft>

**North Carolina Office of the Attorney General** - Consumer Protection Division: 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699; 1-877-566-7226; [www.ncdoj.com](http://www.ncdoj.com)

**Rhode Island Office of the Attorney General** - Consumer Protection: 150 South Main St., Providence RI 02903; 1-401-274-4400; [www.riag.ri.gov](http://www.riag.ri.gov)

**Federal Trade Commission** - Consumer Response Center: 600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20580; 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338); [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov)

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**For residents of Massachusetts:** It is required by state law that you are informed of your right to obtain a police report filed in regard to this incident. If you are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of it.

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**For residents of Rhode Island:** It is required by state law that you are informed of your right to file or obtain a police report in regard to this incident.