

Return Mail Processing Center  
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Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan  
601 Potrero Grande Drive, Monterey Park, CA 91755

[blueshieldca.com/promise](http://blueshieldca.com/promise)

## Notice of Data Breach

October 26, 2021

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SAMPLE A. SAMPLE - L02

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123 ANY ST

ANYTOWN, US 12345-6789



Dear Sample A. Sample:

I am the Chief Privacy Official for Blue Shield of California Promise Health Plan. It is my job to help protect the privacy of our members' protected health information and to investigate any incident where a member's protected health information may have been improperly accessed, used or disclosed in violation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and other privacy laws. I am writing to notify you about a privacy incident that may have impacted your protected health information. Please accept our sincere apologies for any concern this may cause you.

### WHAT HAPPENED

On August 27, 2021, Blue Shield learned that on August 25, 2021, a Blue Shield broker, Team Alvarez, detected unusual network activity. We learned on October 13, 2021 that an unauthorized person may have improperly gained access to Team Alvarez systems through a ransomware attack.

Team Alvarez immediately terminated the unauthorized access on August 25, 2021 and began an investigation into the matter. The investigation revealed that the unauthorized user may have had potential access to members' enrollment forms. We are unable to confirm if the unauthorized user accessed, used, collected, transferred or downloaded this information. However, out of an abundance of caution, Blue Shield is notifying you of this incident.

### WHAT INFORMATION WAS INVOLVED

Your protected health information that may have been accessed included your name, address, phone number, email address, date of birth, gender, subscriber ID number, policy effective date, emergency contact information, authorized representative or power of attorney information, and broker information.

There was no access to other types of your protected health information, such as your Social Security number, driver's license number, or banking or credit card information.



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## WHAT WE ARE DOING

Blue Shield takes this incident very seriously. We are committed to maintaining your privacy. Team Alvarez immediately disconnected affected servers from existing networks and changed all station passwords. Reviews of existing firewall configuration and security scans for existing infrastructure have been completed. Team Alvarez is in the process of rebuilding infrastructure and servers, in a clean environment on new servers.

To help protect your identity, Blue Shield is offering you complimentary access to Experian IdentityWorks<sup>SM</sup> for one year.

If you believe there was fraudulent use of your information as a result of this incident and would like to discuss how you may be able to resolve those issues, please reach out to an Experian agent. If, after discussing your situation with the agent, it is determined that identity restoration support is needed, an Experian Identity Restoration agent will be available to work with you to investigate and resolve each incident of fraud that occurred from the date of the incident (including, as appropriate, helping you with contacting credit grantors to dispute charges and close accounts; assisting you in placing a freeze on your credit file with the three major credit bureaus; and assisting you with contacting government agencies to help restore your identity to its proper condition).

Please note that Identity Restoration is available to you for one year from the date of this letter and does not require any action on your part at this time. The Terms and Conditions for this offer are located at [www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration](http://www.ExperianIDWorks.com/restoration).

While identity restoration assistance is immediately available to you, we also encourage you to activate the fraud detection tools available through Experian IdentityWorks as a complimentary one-year membership. This product provides you with superior identity detection and resolution of identity theft. To start monitoring your personal information, please follow the steps below:

- Ensure that you **enroll by January 31, 2022** (Your code will not work after this date.)
- **Visit** the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll:  
<https://www.experianidworks.com/RR1Bplus>
- Provide your **activation code: ABCDEFGHI**

If you have questions about this product, need assistance with Identity Restoration that arose as a result of this incident or would like an alternative to enrolling in Experian IdentityWorks online, please contact Experian's customer care team at (855) 347-6549 by **January 31, 2022**. Be prepared to provide engagement number **B020485** as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.



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## ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR ONE-YEAR EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS MEMBERSHIP:

A credit card is **not** required for enrollment in Experian IdentityWorks.

You can contact Experian **immediately** regarding any fraud issues, and have access to the following features once you enroll in Experian IdentityWorks:

- **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 your Experian file for indicators of fraud.
- **Internet Surveillance:** Technology searches the web, chat rooms & bulletin boards 24/7 to identify trading or selling of your personal information on the Dark Web.
- **Identity Restoration:** Identity Restoration specialists are immediately available to help you address credit and non-credit related fraud.
- **Experian IdentityWorks ExtendCARE™:** You receive the same high-level of Identity Restoration support even after your Experian IdentityWorks membership has expired.
- **Up to \$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance\*\*:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.
- **Lost Wallet:** Provides assistance with cancelling/replacing lost or stolen credit, debit, and medical cards.
- **Child Monitoring:** For 10 children up to 18 years old, Internet Surveillance and monitoring to determine whether enrolled minors in your household have an Experian credit report are available. Also includes are Identity Restoration and up to \$1M Identity Theft Insurance\*\*.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO

In addition to enrolling in your free Experian IdentityWorks membership, Blue Shield suggests that you closely monitor your bank and credit card accounts and routinely obtain your credit report from one or more of the national credit reporting companies. You may get a free copy of your credit report annually in these ways:

- Online at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)
- Call toll-free 1-877-322-8228
- Mail an Annual Credit Report Request Form (forms are located at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com)) to Annual Credit Report Request Service, PO Box 105281, Atlanta, GA 30348-5281.

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

\*\* 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.



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You may also obtain a copy of your credit report from one or more of these three national credit reporting companies:

<b>Equifax</b> PO Box 740241 Atlanta, GA 30374-0241 1-800-685-1111 equifax.com	<b>Experian</b> PO Box 2002 Allen, TX 75013 1-888-397-3742 experian.com	<b>TransUnion</b> PO Box 1000 Chester, PA 19016 800-916-8800 transunion.com
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To place a credit freeze with one or more of the three national credit reporting companies, please contact the company at their website listed below:

<b>Equifax Security Freeze</b> <a href="https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services">https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services</a>	<b>Experian Security Freeze</b> <a href="https://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html">https://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html</a>	<b>TransUnion Security Freeze</b> <a href="https://freeze.transunion.com">https://freeze.transunion.com</a>
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To learn more about how to take proactive steps to protect yourself against identity theft, you may contact the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) at the FTC website ([www.ftc.gov](http://www.ftc.gov)), by dialing 1-877-ID-Theft (1-877-438-4338), or by writing to the FTC Consumer Response Center, 600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20580.

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Should you have questions regarding this matter and the protections available to you, please do not hesitate to call Blue Shield toll free at (855) 347-6549 for assistance.

Sincerely,

*David E. Keystone*

David Keystone  
Chief Privacy Official



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