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SAN DIEGO, CA 92101

State of California
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



P.O. BOX 944255
SACRAMENTO, CA 94244-2550

DATE

Dear Sir/Madam,

This letter is to inform you of an incident that involved unauthorized access to your personal information.

In November 2011, hackers affiliated with the group Anonymous accessed and released private email accounts belonging to a retired agent for the Department of Justice who was a member of the Computer and Technology Crime High-Tech Response Team (CATCH). CATCH is a multi-agency task force that was formed to apprehend and prosecute criminals who use technology to prey on the citizens of San Diego, Imperial Valley, and Riverside Counties. Some of emails that the hackers released included data that contained your personal information including, but not limited to, your name, address, date of birth, and Social Security number (SSN).

We have no reason to believe that your information was specifically targeted since Anonymous released the information as part of their ongoing protest against the U.S. Government and law enforcement agencies. Nevertheless, we wanted to inform you of this incident and provide you with some preventative measures you can take to protect yourself from becoming a possible victim of identity theft.

Because your Social Security number was involved, we recommend that you place a fraud alert on your credit files. A fraud alert requires potential creditors to use what the law refers to as "reasonable policies and procedures" to verify your identity before issuing credit in your name. A fraud alert lasts for 90 days. Just call one of the three credit reporting agencies at a number below. This will let you automatically place an alert with all of the agencies. You will receive letters from all three, confirming the fraud alert and letting you know how to get a free copy of your credit report from each.

Experian 1-888-397-3742 Equifax 1-800-525-6285 TransUnion 1-800-680-7289

Once you place a fraud alert on your credit files, we recommend you follow the steps outlined in the enclosed *Privacy Protection Recommendations*. For more information on identity theft, you may also visit the web site of the California Office of Privacy Protection at www.privacy.ca.gov.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern this event may have caused you, and we urge you to consider following the steps we have provided to help protect yourself from the possibility of identity theft. If you have any questions or concerns regarding this letter, you may call (916) 324-0349 or send an email to ecrimeunit@doj.ca.gov. You may also submit any inquiries to the eCrime Unit at P.O. Box 944255, Sacramento, CA 94244-2550.

Enclosure