BAUCH & LECHTENBERG LAW OFFICE

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April 13, 2026

CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION
IOWA OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
HOOVER BUILDING
1305 E WALNUT ST
DES MOINES IA 50319

Submitted via email

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to Iowa Code Section 715C.2, this letter provides notice of a data security incident resulting in the unauthorized acquisition of personal information.

On March 18, 2026, our office, Lechtenberg Law Office, LLC d/b/a Bauch & Lechtenberg Law Office ("BLLO"), was contacted by the Iowa Department of Revenue Fraud Department. BLLO learned that an identity thief had gained access to our tax preparation and filing software and had submitted fraudulent tax returns for 14 of our clients on March 17, 2026. We contacted our tax software's fraud department. By doing so, we were able to confirm that our software had been used to submit fraudulent tax returns. The tax software's fraud department removed the ability for any additional tax returns to be submitted until certain actions had been taken to resolve the matter.

BLLO engaged the services of a cybersecurity firm to determine what had happened, whether the threat was ongoing and what actions to take to secure our systems. On March 29, 2026, the cybersecurity firm identified malware on one of our computers and successfully removed it. The firm is continuing its efforts to determine how the malware got on to the computer and what information may have been taken. Although we do not know with certitude what information may have been compromised, it may be assumed to include all data on our tax software including social security numbers, dates of birth, bank account numbers, driver's license numbers, addresses and phone numbers.

BLLO next contacted the Internal Revenue Service Stakeholder Liaison and its Return Integrity & Compliance Services ("RICS") division. We submitted a list of affected social security numbers to RICS.

BLLO mailed out a letter, a sample copy of which is attached, to notify affected clients on April 9, 2026. The letter identifies steps that the affected clients can take to protect their identity and credit. As stated in the sample notification letter, we are offering two years of complimentary identity theft and credit restoration services through Experian. A modified product was offered for minors whose information was on our tax software.

Moving forward, BLLO will be reviewing its systems to identify and address security vulnerabilities.

If any additional information is needed, please contact me.

Yours Truly,

Brent L. Lechtenberg

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April 9, 2026

[Redacted]
[Redacted]
[Redacted]

Notice of Data Security Incident

Dear Valued Client,

We are writing to inform you of a recent data security incident at our law office that may have involved some of your personal information.

We recently discovered unauthorized access to our internal systems. Upon discovery, we immediately took steps to secure our environment and launched an investigation to determine the nature and scope of the incident. While our investigation is ongoing, we are notifying you because your tax-related information was maintained on the affected systems.

To help protect your identity, we strongly recommend that you obtain an Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) from the IRS. An IP PIN is a six-digit number that prevents someone else from filing a tax return using your Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number. The IP PIN is known only to you and the IRS and helps verify your identity when you file your electronic or paper tax return. You can apply for an IP PIN directly through the official IRS website at www.irs.gov/getanippin.

We also encourage you to remain vigilant by monitoring your bank account activity, checking your credit reports for any unauthorized activity and placing a fraud alert or credit freeze. Credit reports, fraud alerts and credit freezes may be set up for free from each of the three major credit bureaus. You might also consider signing up for an IRS online account, which grants you access to your tax data and facilitates communication with the IRS.

As an extra precaution, we are offering complimentary access to Experian IdentityWorks for 24 months. Please see the following sheet for more information and how to activate.

We sincerely regret any concern and inconvenience caused by this incident. If you have questions or concerns, you may call our office.

Yours Truly,

Brent L Lechtenberg
Brent L. Lechtenberg

What Happened?	A bad actor managed to get a malicious application on to one of our workstations. From there they were able to file tax returns using taxpayer information that was previously stolen from other firms. On March 17, 2026, the bad actor began to use taxpayer information that was on our system to file 14 tax returns. The Iowa Department of Revenue noticed irregularities with these returns and notified our office.
What Information Was Involved?	This incident exposed all of the information on our tax software, which includes social security numbers, bank account numbers, dates of birth, addresses, phone numbers and driver's license numbers – for the primary taxpayer, secondary taxpayer and dependents. Although the identity thief attempted to file only 14 tax returns, we must assume that all of our other clients' tax data has also been taken.
What We Are Doing	Our office has alerted the IRS that our tax clients' information has likely been taken and to give greater scrutiny to those tax returns. We are taking part in the IRS's Practitioner Relief "Opt-In" Program to help verify our clients' actual tax returns. We are also working with a cybersecurity firm that has removed the malicious application. We will continue working with them to attempt to determine exactly what data was taken and to strengthen security measures to prevent future data security incidents.
What You Can Do	Monitor your financial accounts and credit reports. Apply for an IP PIN from the IRS. Be alert for signs of identity theft, including unexpected notices from the IRS or others. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) recommends that you place a free fraud alert on your credit file. A fraud alert tells creditors to contact you before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. Contact any one of the three major credit bureaus. As soon as one credit bureau confirms your fraud alert, the others are notified to place fraud alerts. The initial fraud alert stays on your credit report for one year. You can renew it after one year. Equifax: equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services or 1-800-685-1111 Experian: experian.com/help or 1-888-397-3742 TransUnion: transunion.com/credit-help or 1-888-909-8872 Ask each credit bureau to send you a free credit report after it places a fraud alert on your file. Review your credit reports for accounts and inquiries you don't recognize. These can be signs of identity theft. If your personal information has been misused, visit the FTC's site at IdentityTheft.gov to report the identity theft and get recovery steps. Even if you do not find any suspicious activity on your initial credit reports, the FTC recommends that you check your credit reports periodically so you can spot problems and address them quickly. You may also want to consider placing a free credit freeze. A credit freeze means potential creditors cannot get your credit report. That makes it less likely that an identity thief can open new accounts in your name. To place a freeze, contact each of the major credit bureaus at the links or phone numbers above. A freeze remains in place until you ask the credit bureau to temporarily lift it or remove it. More information can be found on the FTC's website: IdentityTheft.gov/databreach

EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS

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 an agent, it is determined that identity restoration support is needed then an Experian Identity Restoration agent is 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 24 months 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.

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 24-month 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** July 31, 2026 by 11:59 pm UTC (Your code will expire at that time.)
- **Visit** the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: https://www.experianidworks.com/3bcredit
- Provide your **activation code**:
  - [Redacted]
  - [Redacted]

If you have questions about the 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 by July 31, 2026 at (833) 931-7577 Monday – Friday, 8 am – 8 pm Central Time (excluding major U.S. holidays). Be prepared to provide engagement number [B163124] as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 24-MONTH 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 Experian, Equifax and Transunion files for indicators of fraud.
- **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.
- **$1 Million Identity Theft Insurance:** Provides coverage for certain costs and unauthorized electronic fund transfers.

EXPERIAN IDENTITYWORKS

(for Minors)

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- Ensure that you **enroll by** July 31, 2026 by 11:59 pm UTC (Your code will expire at that time.)
- **Visit** the Experian IdentityWorks website to enroll: https://www.experianidworks.com/minorplus
- Provide your **activation code**: [Activation Code]

If you have questions about the 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 by July 31, 2026 at (833) 931-7577 Monday – Friday, 8 am – 8 pm Central Time (excluding major U.S. holidays). Be prepared to provide engagement number [B163126] as proof of eligibility for the Identity Restoration services by Experian.

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