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State Attorney General, State of Iowa  
Hoover State Office Building  
1305 E. Walnut Street  
Des Moines, IA 50319

RCVD AUG 17 2023

RE: Potential Data Breach

Dear Maam:


This letter is written to inform you that I have been notified by my income tax software provider of a data breach within the last week. Based on a forensic analysis of our office computers, we have no indications of actual intrusion to our computers, logging files or other indicators of any intrusion. It appears that the data was accessed from our software provider by going directly into their portal.

Within two hours of notification, we reached out to the IRS Stakeholder Liaison and notified them of the potential breach, including details of the potential breach. It appears that someone logged into the website of my software provider and filed some tax returns using my EFIN (e-file identification number), which has now been stopped. A total of 9 federal tax returns were filed. For 7 of those returns, no state income tax returns were filed. We were able to notify the IRS of the particulars and substantially stop the returns from processing. Only 1 return was not stopped. In that instance, the return was actually a correct tax return that we prepared, the hacker just changed the refund check to a direct deposit to a bogus account. This detailed information was quickly provided to IRS (the document control numbers) to stop the processing of the tax returns. We are working closely with the Service to fully address this situation.

X No state income tax returns for your state were impacted. Just to error on the side of caution, we are notifying you that I do have 1 or more clients in your state and that we have taken measures with IRS to protect the taxpayers of mine (all from being victimized by this going forward).

Please let us know if you have any questions. We will also notify your state department of revenue if you are a state that has income tax.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey O'Connell, CPA