

LaPorte & Associates, Inc. Data Breach Notification

LaPorte & Associates values the trust our clients have placed in us and understands that protection of personal information is important to them. Regrettably, this notice is regarding a security incident that may have involved some of that information.

On January 8, 2018, we learned that a laptop belonging to one of our agents was stolen. When we learned about the theft, we immediately secured the employee's email account, took steps to prevent any remote access to LaPorte's systems and remotely erased the laptop, began an investigation, and engaged a leading forensic firm. We conducted a thorough review of the employee's email account and determined, on April 2, 2018, that some of the emails that may have been accessible from the stolen laptop contained information about LaPorte clients or their employees and family members, including names and Social Security numbers, health insurance numbers, claims information, dates of service, provider names, diagnoses or treatment information, and explanations of benefits, invoice amounts, and invoices.

LaPorte is in the process of providing written notice to the individuals who have been affected by this incident by first class mail. If you were affected and LaPorte has your address, you will receive a letter with more information and a toll-free number to call to learn about free credit monitoring and identity theft protection services being offered to affected individuals. The majority of LaPorte's clients were not affected by this incident.

We have no indication that the information in the emails was actually viewed or has been used in any way. However, out of an abundance of caution, we wanted to provide notice of this incident and assurances that we take it very seriously.

We sincerely regret that this incident occurred and apologize for any inconvenience or concern this may cause. To help prevent something like this from happening in the future, we have added encryption to portable electronic devices and prevented offline access to email accounts. We also will be conducting additional training and education for our employees regarding portable electronic device security and amending our email retention policies.

If you have any questions or want clarification on what information may have been accessible, please call 877-586-8265, Monday through Friday between 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. Pacific Time. For information about preventing identity theft or to report suspicious activity, contact the Federal Trade Commission at 1-877-IDTHEFT (438-4338) or get free information at www.ftc.gov/idtheft.