

September 3, 2020

To: Our Clients

RE: Fraudulent Unemployment Claims

As you probably have heard, the state of Rhode Island has been hit hard by fraudulent unemployment insurance claims. Unfortunately, this is becoming an increasingly common issue being seen in over thirteen states including Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine, and New York.

We want to assure you that absolutely no breach has occurred within our system or database. We conduct regular on-going audits, require two-factor login authentication into our cloud-based system, and are SOC 1 certified.

The RI State Police has issued a warning to Rhode Islanders about these fraudulent claims. If you or any of your employees receive a claim in the mail that is not legitimate, **do not throw it away**. Instead, report it immediately to the RI State Police at risp.ri.gov or 401-764-5179.

In addition to reporting it, the state police recommend that the following steps be taken:

- Visit identitytheft.gov and file a report that your identity was stolen
- Contact one of the three major credit bureaus and put a fraud alert on your credit file
- Change your passwords for your email, online banking, and shopping websites. Use at least 8 characters with a mix of numbers, letters and characters and do not use the same password on multiple sites.

The following links contain additional information about this issue. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

- Mass.gov <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/report-unemployment-benefits-fraud>
- FBI <https://www.fbi.gov/news/pressrel/press-releases/fbi-sees-spike-in-fraudulent-unemployment-insurance-claims-filed-using-stolen-identities>
- Providence Journal <https://www.providencejournal.com/news/20200505/feds-ri-state-police-investigating-hundreds-of-unemployment-fraud-claims>
- WPRI.com <https://www.wpri.com/target-12/dlt-thousands-now-claiming-id-theft-in-unemployment-fraud-scheme/>

Sincerely,

Steven Truesdale
President