

## NOTICE OF DATA PRIVACY EVENT

September 1, 2023 – Bienville Orthopaedic Specialists LLC (“BOS”) is providing notice of a data security event that may involve personal information related to certain individuals. While BOS is unaware of any actual or attempted identity fraud in relation to the incident, it is providing potentially affected individuals with information about the incident and steps individuals may take to help protect against the possible misuse of their information.

**What Happened?** On March 5, 2023, BOS became aware of a cyberattack on our computer systems. We promptly took steps to secure our systems and began an investigation into the nature and scope of the incident. The investigation determined that in connection with the incident there was unauthorized access to certain systems in our environment between February 3, 2023, and March 5, 2023, and as a result, certain data stored on our systems was subject to unauthorized acquisition on March 4, 2023. We then undertook a comprehensive review of the affected data to identify what information was within the files at issue. On July 31, 2023, we determined that information in the files at issue contained protected health information and that some of that information related to current and former patients.

**What Information Was Involved?** The investigation determined your name, and the following types of data were present in the files that were impacted in this incident: Social Security number, medical information, health insurance information, username and password, financial account information, driver’s license number.

**What We Are Doing.** We take this incident and the security of information in our care seriously. Upon learning of this incident, we immediately secured our environment, investigated to determine the nature and scope of the incident, and notified law enforcement. We have also implemented additional technical safeguards to further enhance existing security measures. BOS is offering you access to complimentary credit monitoring and identity protection services through Experian. Details of this offer and instructions on how to enroll in the services may be found in the attached *Steps You Can Take to Protect Personal Information*. If you would like to enroll in these services you will need to follow the attach instructions, as we are unable to enroll you automatically.

**What You Can Do.** We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your account statements and monitoring your free credit reports for suspicious activity and to detect errors. Additional information, including steps to enroll in credit monitoring, may be found in the *Steps You Can Take to Protect Personal Information* section below.

**For More Information.** If you have questions regarding this incident, you may contact our dedicated assistance line at 888-899-3887 between the hours of 7:30am and 4:30pm Central. You may also write to BOS at 6300 East Lake Blvd., Suite 201, Gautier, MS 39565.

## STEPS YOU CAN TAKE TO HELP PROTECT YOUR INFORMATION

### **Monitor Your Accounts**

Under U.S. law, a consumer is entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion. To order your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also directly

contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below to request a free copy of your credit report.

Consumers have the right to place an initial or extended “fraud alert” on a credit file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a one-year alert that is placed on a consumer’s credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer’s credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer’s identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one of the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below.

As an alternative to a fraud alert, consumers have the right to place a “credit freeze” on a credit report, which will prohibit a credit bureau from releasing information in the credit report without the consumer’s express authorization. The credit freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a credit freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a credit freeze on your credit report. To request a credit freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Full name (including middle initial, as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;
3. Date of birth;
4. Addresses for the prior two to five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill or telephone bill;
6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (state driver’s license or ID card, etc.); and
7. A copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft if you are a victim of identity theft.

Should you wish to place a fraud alert or a credit freeze, please contact the three major credit reporting bureaus listed below:

<b>Equifax</b>	<b>Experian</b>	<b>TransUnion</b>
<a href="https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/">https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/</a>	<a href="https://www.experian.com/help/">https://www.experian.com/help/</a>	<a href="https://www.transunion.com/credit-help">https://www.transunion.com/credit-help</a>
1-888-298-0045	1-888-397-3742	1-800-916-8800
Equifax Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 105069 Atlanta, GA 30348-5069	Experian Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion Fraud Alert, P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19016
Equifax Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 105788 Atlanta, GA 30348-5788	Experian Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 9554, Allen, TX 75013	TransUnion Credit Freeze, P.O. Box 160, Woodlyn, PA 19094

**Additional Information**

You may further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, credit freezes, and the steps you can take to protect your personal information by contacting the consumer reporting bureaus,

the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission may be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580; [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov); 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338); and TTY: 1-866-653-4261. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. You can obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. You have the right to file a police report if you ever experience identity theft or fraud. Please note that in order to file a report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide some proof that you have been a victim. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement and your state Attorney General. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.