## NOTICE OF DATA PRIVACY EVENT

**November 8, 2024** – Georgia Kidney Association, Inc. ("GKA" or "we") is providing notice of an event that may affect the privacy of certain individuals' information. GKA takes this event very seriously and is providing information about the event, the response to it, and resources available to individuals to help protect their information, should they feel it appropriate to do so.

What Happened? On May 6, 2024, an individual accessed GKA's password protected area of our facility without authorization and stole a safe. Upon becoming aware of the of this activity, GKA promptly began investigation into the scope and nature of the activity and notified law enforcement. As GKA continues to work with law enforcement on this matter, GKA decided to provide you with a notification of the event as our internal investigation has revealed that certain information related to you may have been accessed and/or acquired as part of the event.

What Information Was Involved? The personal information involved varies by individual. For the information involved as to you, we would ask that you refer to your notice letter. Information potentially impacted may be your name, date of birth, Social Security number, medical record number, health insurance information, and financial account numbers. Nevertheless, data elements impacted by this event vary by individual and not all data elements were impacted for every individual.

What GKA is Doing. GKA takes this event and the security of personal information in its care very seriously. Upon learning of this event GKA moved quickly to investigate and respond to the event and notify potentially affected individuals. As part of its ongoing commitment to the security of information, GKA is reviewing and enhancing its existing policies and procedures to reduce the likelihood of a similar future event. GKA notified impacted individuals for whom GKA has a valid mailing address via U.S. mail and offering them credit monitoring and identity protection services. GKA also notified applicable regulators.

How Will Individuals Know If They Are Affected By This Event? GKA is mailing a notice letter to individuals whose information was determined to be in the affected files, for whom a valid mailing address is available. If an individual does not receive a letter but would like to know if they are affected, they may call GKA's dedicated assistance line, detailed below.

Whom Should Individuals Contact For More Information? If individuals have questions or would like additional information, they may call GKA's dedicated assistance line at 1-833-531-0168, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday. This excludes all major U.S. holidays.

What You Can Do. GKA encourages individuals to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud by reviewing your account statements, explanation of benefits forms, and monitoring your free credit reports for suspicious activity and to detect errors. Under U.S. law individuals are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus. To order a free credit report, visit https://www.annualcreditreport.com/index.action or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. Individuals may also contact the three major credit bureaus directly to request a free copy of their credit report, place a fraud alert, or a security freeze. Contact information for the credit bureaus is below:

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 1-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

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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 security freeze, you may need to provide the following information, depending on whether the request is made online, by phone, or by mail:

- 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:

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

For Maryland residents, the Maryland Attorney General may be contacted at: Office of the Attorney General, 200 St. Paul Place, 16th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21202; 1-410-576-6300 or 1-888-743-0023; and https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/.

For New York residents, you may contact and obtain information from these state agencies: New York Department of State Division of Consumer Protection, One Commerce Plaza, 99 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12231-0001, 518-474-8583 / 1-800-697-1220, <a href="http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection">http://www.dos.ny.gov/consumerprotection</a>; and New York State Office of the Attorney General, The Capitol, Albany, NY 12224-0341, 1-800-771-7755, <a href="https://ag.ny.gov">https://ag.ny.gov</a>

For North Carolina residents, the North Carolina Attorney General may be contacted at: 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001; 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6000; and www.ncdoi.gov.

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