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P.O. Box 1907 Suwanee, GA 30024

#### Via First-Class Mail

<<FirstName>><<LastName>>
<<Address1>><<Address2>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

Enrollment Code: << XXXXXXXX>>

To Enroll, Scan the QR Code Below:

Or Visit:

https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect

February 25, 2025

<<Notice of Data Breach>>

### Dear <<FirstName>> <<LastName>>:

Gastroenterology Associates of Central Florida, P.A. dba Center for Digestive Health ("the Clinic" or "we") is writing to inform you of a recent data security incident that may have resulted in unauthorized access to your sensitive personal information. The personal information involved may have been related to care you received at the Clinic and/or the Center for Digestive Endoscopy. While the Clinic is unaware of any fraudulent misuse of your personal information at this time, we are providing you with details about the incident, steps we are taking in response, and resources available to help you protect against the potential misuse of your information. Please be assured that the Clinic takes the protection and proper use of your personal information very seriously.

## What Happened?

On April 11, 2024, the Clinic detected suspicious activity in their IT network environment. Upon discovery of this incident, the Clinic promptly took steps to secure their network environment and engaged a specialized cybersecurity firm to investigate the nature and scope of the incident. As a result of the investigation, the Clinic learned that an unauthorized actor accessed and acquired certain files and data stored within our network, as has occurred in many other businesses, banks, and large corporations in America.

Upon learning this, the Clinic launched a review of the potentially affected data to identify the individuals and information involved. On January 22, 2025, the Clinic identified persons whose personal health information ("PHI") was included within the impacted data. At this time, we have no evidence any of the information has been misused by a third party, but because information related to you was disclosed, we are notifying you out of full transparency.

## **What Information Was Involved?**

The data acquired by a person not authorized to view them may have involved: name, Social Security number, date of birth, and health information.

# What We Are Doing?

Data security is one of our highest priorities. Upon detecting this incident, we moved quickly to initiate an investigation, which included retaining a leading forensic investigation firm who assisted in conducting an investigation and confirming the security of our network environment. We also deployed additional monitoring tools and will continue to enhance the security of our systems. We take the protection and proper use of personal information very seriously.

As part of our ongoing commitment to information privacy and the security of information, we are notifying you of this incident, and we are providing you with access to Single Bureau Credit Monitoring/Single Bureau Credit Report/Single Bureau Credit Score services at no charge. These services provide you with alerts for <<12/24>> months from the date of enrollment when changes occur to your credit file. This notification is sent to you the same day that the change or update takes place with the bureau. Finally, we are providing you with proactive fraud assistance to help with any questions that you might have or in event that you become a victim of fraud. These services will be provided by IDX, specializing in fraud assistance and remediation services.

## What You Can Do

We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft and fraud, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious or unauthorized activity. Additionally, security experts suggest that you contact your financial institution and all major credit bureaus to inform them of such a breach and then take whatever steps are recommended to protect your interests, including the possible placement of a fraud alert on your credit file. Please review the enclosed *Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information*, to learn more about how to protect against the possibility of information misuse.

To enroll in Credit Monitoring services at no charge, you can call IDX at 1-877-872-0668, or go to <a href="https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect">https://app.idx.us/account-creation/protect</a>, or scan the QR image and using the Enrollment Code provided above. IDX representatives are available Monday through Friday from 9 am - 9 pm Eastern Time. Please note the deadline to enroll is May 25, 2025.

In order for you to receive the monitoring services described above, you must enroll within 90 days from the date of this letter. The enrollment requires an internet connection and e-mail account and may not be available to minors under the age of 18 years of age. Once enrolled you will have <<12/24>> months of monitoring services. At the end of <<12/24>> months, the services will be deactivated. Please note that when signing up for monitoring services, you may be asked to verify personal information for your own protection to confirm your identity.

## **For More Information**

Representatives of IDX are available for 90 days from the date of this letter, to assist you with questions regarding this incident, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern time, Monday through Friday, excluding holidays. Please call the help line 1-877-872-0668, and supply the fraud specialist with the unique code listed above. The call center representatives have been fully versed on the incident and can answer questions or concerns you may have regarding protection of your personal information.

Gastroenterology Associates of Central Florida, P.A. sincerely regrets any concern or inconvenience this matter may cause and remains dedicated to ensuring the privacy and security of all information in our control.

Sincerely,

Gastroenterology Associates of Central Florida, P.A. *dba* Center for Digestive Health

### Steps You Can Take to Help Protect Your Information

Credit Reports: You may obtain a copy of your credit report, free of charge, whether or not you suspect any unauthorized activity on your account. You may obtain a free copy of your credit report from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies. To order your free credit report, please visit <a href="www.annualcreditreport.com">www.annualcreditreport.com</a>, or call toll-free at 1-877-322-8228. You can also order your annual free credit report by mailing a completed Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at <a href="https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports">https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0155-free-credit-reports</a>) to: Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281.

Security Freeze: You also have the right to place a security freeze on your credit report. A security freeze is intended to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. To place a security freeze on your credit report, you need to make a request to each consumer reporting agency. You may make that request by certified mail, overnight mail, regular stamped mail, or by following the instructions found at the websites listed below. The following information must be included when requesting a security freeze (note that if you are requesting a credit report for your spouse or a minor under the age of 16, this information must be provided for him/her as well): (1) full name, with middle initial and any suffixes; (2) Social Security number; (3) date of birth; (4) current address and any previous addresses for the past five years; and (5) any applicable incident report or complaint with a law enforcement agency or the Registry of Motor Vehicles. The request must also include a copy of a government-issued identification card and a copy of a recent utility bill or bank or insurance statement. It is essential that each copy be legible, display your name and current mailing address, and the date of issue. As of September 21, 2018, it is free to place, lift, or remove a security freeze. You may also place a security freeze for children under the age of 16. You may obtain a free security freeze by contacting any one or more of the following national consumer reporting agencies:

P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348
1-888-298-0045
https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze/

P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com/freeze/center.ht
ml

TransUnion Security Freeze
P.O. Box 160
Woodlyn, PA 19094
1-800-916-8800
www.transunion.com/credit-freeze

Fraud Alerts: You can place fraud alerts with the three credit bureaus by phone and online with:

- Equifax (https://assets.equifax.com/assets/personal/Fraud Alert Request Form.pdf);
- TransUnion (https://www.transunion.com/fraud-alerts); or
- Experian (https://www.experian.com/fraud/center.html).

A fraud alert tells creditors to follow certain procedures, including contacting you, before they open any new accounts or change your existing accounts. For that reason, placing a fraud alert can protect you, but also may delay you when you seek to obtain credit. Initial fraud alerts last for one year. Victims of identity theft can also get an extended fraud alert for seven years. The phone numbers for all three credit bureaus are at the bottom of this page.

Monitoring: You should always remain vigilant and monitor your accounts for suspicious or unusual activity.

**File Police Report:** You have the right to file or obtain a police report if you experience identity fraud. Please note that in order to file a crime report or incident report with law enforcement for identity theft, you will likely need to provide proof that you have been a victim. A police report is often required to dispute fraudulent items. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement or to the Attorney General's office in your home jurisdiction. This notice has not been delayed by law enforcement.

FTC and Attorneys General: You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps you can take to protect yourself, by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, the Federal Trade Commission, or your state Attorney General. The Federal Trade Commission can be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580, <a href="www.identitytheft.gov">www.identitytheft.gov</a>, 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338), 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.

**For District of Columbia residents**, the Attorney General may be contacted at the Office of the Attorney General for the District of Columbia, 441 4th Street NW, Washington, DC 20001, 1-202-727-3400, <a href="www.oag.dc.gov.">www.oag.dc.gov.</a>

**For Maryland residents**, you may also may also wish to review information provided by the Maryland Attorney General on how to avoid identity theft at <a href="https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/IdentityTheft/default.aspx">https://www.marylandattorneygeneral.gov/Pages/IdentityTheft/default.aspx</a>, or by sending an email to idtheft@oag.state.md.us, or calling 410-576-6491.

For New Mexico residents, state law advises you to review personal account statements and credit reports, as applicable, to detect errors resulting from the security breach. You also have rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, such as the right to be told if information in your credit file has been used against you, the right to know what is in your credit file, the right to ask for your credit score, and the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information. Further, pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, the consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information; consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information; access to your file is limited; you must give your consent for credit reports to be provided to employers; you may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report; and you may seek damages from violators. You may have additional rights under the Fair Credit Reporting Act not summarized here. Identity theft victims and active-duty military personnel have specific additional rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act. We encourage you to review your rights pursuant to the Fair Credit Reporting Act at <a href="https://www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\_cfpb\_summary\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf">www.consumerfinance.gov/f/201504\_cfpb\_summary\_your-rights-under-fcra.pdf</a> or by writing Consumer Response Center, Room 130-A, Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20580.

**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 Attorney General can be contacted at 9001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-9001, 1-877-566-7226 or 1-919-716-6400, and <a href="www.ncdoj.gov">www.ncdoj.gov</a>. You may also obtain information about steps you can take to prevent identify theft from the North Carolina Attorney General at <a href="https://ncdoj.gov/protecting-consumers/protecting-your-identity/protect-yourself-from-id-theft/">https://ncdoj.gov/protecting-consumers/protecting-your-identity/protect-yourself-from-id-theft/</a>.

**For Rhode Island residents**, this data event involves <<#> individuals in Rhode Island. You may contact and obtain information from your state attorney general at: *Rhode Island Attorney General's Office*, 150 South Main Street, Providence, RI 02903, 1-401-274-4400, <a href="www.riag.ri.gov">www.riag.ri.gov</a>.