SCHUERING ZIMMERMAN & DOYLE, LLP

Attorneys at Law

400 University Avenue Sacramento, CA 95825-6502 (916) 567-0400 FAX: 568-0400

FIELD(address)

FIELD(city)

FAX: 568-0400 Website: www.szs.com

DATE

Leo H. Schuering, Jr.
Robert H. Zimmerman
Thomas J. Doyle*
Lawrence Scott Giardina*
Keith D. Chidlaw
Dominique A. Pollara*
Theodore D. Poppinga
Glenn M. Holley
Kat Todd
Erik M. Aanestaa*
Jason S. Barnas*
Michael J. Campbell
Chad C. Couchot*
James R. Cummins
Christian Koster
Andrew S. Larsen
Matthew B. Robinson
David J. Van Dam
Preston R. Young

*Also admitted in Nevada

Steven T. Scully (1948-1994)

Re: Notification of Privacy Breach

FIELD(prefix) FIELD(first) FIELD(Last)

Dear FIELD(Prefix) FIELD(last):

Our office represents Eureka Internal Medicine. We want to assure you that the security, confidentiality, integrity and privacy of patient personal information are highly valued by Eureka Internal Medicine. We are writing you because of a possible disclosure of your personally identifiable information.

From about September 25, 2013, until about October 9, 2013, when it was discovered, a janitorial service for Eureka Internal Medicine, was mixing paper recycling containing patient information with the regular trash at night, instead of moving it to the locked shredding bin, where it belonged. As a result, the paper containing patient information was thrown out with the regular trash, which was picked up and handled by the waste management company in the usual manner, instead of locked in a shred bin until picked up for secure shredding. We have no way of knowing if any of your personal health information was included in the special recycle bins during the time they were emptied in the regular trash. Information that may have been in the recycle bins includes:

Full Name, Social Security Number, Insurance plan information, and Medical information.

We believe there is a very low likelihood that any of this information was obtained by others and do not believe you need to be concerned. However, you should take the following steps to protect your credit, including:

1. **Obtain a copy of your credit report.** Review it for any suspicious activity.

FIELD(prefix) FIELD(first) FIELD(Last)

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- 2. **Contact your bank.** Even if there has been no suspicious activity on your credit reports, you should contact your bank and alert them of the incident. Different banks have proactive methods of preventing fraudulent transactions before they occur.
- 3. **Contact the Federal Trade Commission and Review Website Information for Additional Recommended Action.** The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) website contains important additional information that can further assist you in protecting your identity and credit.
- 4. **If you discover any suspicious activity.** You may contact the Internal Revenue Service Identity Protection Unit (IRSIPU) and file an Identity Theft Affidavit notifying them that you have been the victim or a potential victim of identity theft and requesting that they mark your account to identify any questionable activity. The Internal Revenue Service Identity Protection Unit can be contacted at the following: IRSIPU at www.irs.gov/privacy/article/0, ide 186436, www.irs.gov/privacy/article/0, ide 186436, ov/privacy/article/0, www.irs.gov/privacy/article/0, <a hr

Eureka Internal Medicine sincerely apologizes for this breach of protected personal and health information. The circumstances that resulted in this breach were unforseen and Eureka Internal Medicine assures you that the office and janitorial staff have been instructed on the proper procedures and safeguards to prevent an recurrence of this situation.

If you have any questions concerning this breach, please contact the attorney listed below. Our toll free telephone number is (888) 233-2305.

Very truly yours,

SCHUERING ZIMMERMAN & DOYLE, LLP

Christian Koster

CK:slb