



OFFICE *of the* SECRETARY *of* STATE

Alexi Giannoulis • Secretary of State

April 12, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL: reports@ilga.gov

Honorable Tim Anderson
Secretary of the Senate
Illinois Senate
Capitol Building, Room 401
Springfield, IL 62706-1150

Honorable John W. Hollman
Chief Clerk of the House
Illinois House of Representatives
Capitol Building, Room 300
Springfield, IL 62706-1150

Dear Messrs. Anderson and Hollman,

Pursuant to the requirements within the Illinois Personal Information Protection Act, 815 ILCS 530/1 *et seq.*, the Illinois Secretary of State's Office is providing notification of a data incident that originated from the official email account of a Lake County Government employee.

The phishing incident, which we recently learned about, appears to have exposed the personal information of some Illinois residents.

None of our computer systems were impacted and our Department of Information Technology and cyber security team acted within hours to contain and mitigate the incident. According to the information we have at this time, the unauthorized access by this unknown actor who used the Lake County Government email was limited in scope to two Secretary of State employee Office 365 accounts. It is important to note, none of the office's databases – including those that contain drivers and vehicles records – were compromised.

Since taking office, the Secretary of State has made significant investments to enhance the protection of personal data through additional partnerships with cyber security providers and the expansion of our cyber security unit within our IT Department.

The Secretary of State's office takes these issues extremely seriously and has engaged multiple third-party cyber security experts to conduct a forensic audit to ascertain the origin of the unauthorized access and strengthen our data security framework against future attacks. We have also implemented additional security measures, including strengthening multi-factor authentication (MFA) methods and increasing monitoring and oversight.

We are notifying all individuals whose information was potentially impacted and offering credit monitoring services out of an abundance of caution and to alleviate any concerns related to the incident.

The Office's investigation is ongoing, and we will update this notice with any new information. We are happy to arrange a call or meeting if you have any questions or need further details.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rob Gamrath".

Rob Gamrath
General Counsel