

## Notice of Data Incident Regarding Hilderbrand & Clark, CPA

SAN RAMON, Calif., August 23, 2017 /PRNEWSWIRE/ -- After experiencing unusual activity when filing two tax returns on extension, Hilderbrand & Clark, CPA immediately notified the IRS and had their local IT firm review their system. Further, they hired a specialized forensic IT firm to investigate. On Monday, July 10, 2017, the specialized forensic IT firm determined that there was unauthorized access to Hilderbrand & Clark, CPA's system from a foreign IP address on June 14, 2017. Unfortunately, the forensic IT firm cannot determine which files were accessed so they are notifying everyone whose information was accessible out of an abundance of caution.

If Hilderbrand & Clark prepared tax returns for you, the information may have included all information provided to the taxing authorities including your: full name, date of birth, telephone number(s), address, Social Security number, all employment (W-2) information, all 1099 information (including account number if provided to H&C), driver's license information (if provided to H&C), and direct deposit bank account information (including account number and routing information if provided to H&C).

If you were a partner, employee, or beneficiary of a partnership, company, or trust Hilderbrand & Clark, CPA performed work for, the information may have included your: full name, address, Social Security number, and line item totals of income and expense you received from the partnership, company, or trust.

If you are not certain whether your information was on Hilderbrand & Clark, CPA's system, please call toll free number **1-800-931-1477**, or write them at 3180 Crow Canyon Place, Suite 101, San Ramon, CA 94583.

Given the nature of the information potentially exposed, Hilderbrand & Clark, CPA strongly recommends the following steps be taken:

1. Change all bank account numbers that were provided to Hilderbrand & Clark, CPA, or at a minimum monitor all such bank activity. These would include direct deposit and electronic fund transfer account details or scanned copies of bank statements and form 1099's.
2. Establish and monitor free 90 day fraud alerts with the three credit reporting bureaus. Their telephone numbers and addresses are: Equifax (1-888-766-0008; P.O. Box 740241, Atlanta, GA 30374), Experian (1-888-397-3742; P.O. Box 4500, Allen, TX 75013), and TransUnion (1-800-680-7289; P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19022-2000).
3. Consider placing a credit freeze on your accounts which will make it more difficult for someone to open an account. For more information: <https://www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0497-credit-freeze-faqs>
4. If you become a victim or suspect identity theft, file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission at <https://identitytheft.gov> and law enforcement. The FTC also provides

detailed and specific information about identity theft at their website, which we recommend you review.

Lastly, you are entitled to a free credit report every year from the three credit bureaus at [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) and one year of complimentary credit monitoring has been purchased for you should you be affected.

Protecting your information is incredibly important to Hilderbrand & Clark, CPA. In addition to the steps outlined above, Hilderbrand & Clark, CPA notified the FBI, the IRS, all three consumer reporting bureaus, the applicable state agencies, it is reviewing office policies and procedures, and it will work with law enforcement in any investigation of the criminals. Again, if you are not certain whether your information was on the Hilderbrand & Clark, CPA system, please call toll free number **1-800-931-1477**, or write them at 3180 Crow Canyon Place, Suite 101, San Ramon, CA 94583.