



Earlier this fall, Equifax, one of the largest credit reporting agencies, reported a major cyber security incident which may have exposed private information belonging to an estimated 143 million U.S. consumers as well as certain individuals in Canada and the United Kingdom.

A few clients have asked what they should do to protect themselves considering the security breach. As a reminder, here are some steps you can take to protect your personal and financial information:

- Request a copy of your credit report from each of the three nationwide credit reporting agencies at [AnnualCreditReport.com](https://www.annualcreditreport.com). You can obtain a free report once every twelve months from each agency.
- Sign up for a credit monitoring service.
- Routinely update your passwords. We suggest you create a strong and unique password specific to each site - avoid using the same password on multiple sites. You should never share your sign-in information and/or security question information.
- More information about this particular incident and additional steps you can take can be found at [consumer.ftc.gov](https://www.consumer.ftc.gov).

We also recommend you regularly review account activity (including your statements) on all bank accounts, investment accounts and credit cards.

We take your privacy and the security of your information very seriously. If you have any questions or would like additional guidance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards,

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