

October 13, 2020

VIA U.S. MAIL AND EMAIL

Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem
Office of the Attorney General
600 E Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 125
Bismark, ND 58505
Email: NDAG@ND.GOV

Re: Blackbaud Security Incident

Dear Attorney General,

Avera Foundation (“Avera”) is writing to notify your office of a ransomware security incident attack on the network of our fundraising management system vendor. Avera licenses a cloud-hosted fundraising management platform from Blackbaud. On July 16, 2020, Avera received an email from Blackbaud notifying us that personal information of our donors was potentially subject to a ransomware attack.

Blackbaud discovered the security incident in May 2020. Prior to terminating the intruder’s access, the cybercriminal removed backup files from Blackbaud’s network. The acquired backup files included personal information consisting of name, address, and birthdate. No bank accounts, credit card information, or social security numbers were accessed by the cybercriminal. Avera recently transitioned to this cloud-hosted platform; therefore, Avera conducted follow up conference calls with the vendor to determine that Avera’s information was subject to the security incident.

Blackbaud’s investigation reported there is no reasonably likelihood that this security incident has or will compromise the privacy of the residents’ personal information for identity theft or fraud. However, based upon your state statute requirements, Avera is providing this notice to your office as well as 605 residents of North Dakota. A sample notice to residents is enclosed.

Please contact Avera’s Information Security Officer at AHISO@avera.org should you require any additional information regarding this security incident or notice to residents.

Sincerely,



Rhonda Roesler
Chief Compliance Officer