



1700 G Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20552

February 16, 2018

The Honorable Brian Schatz
United States Senate
722 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Schatz:

I write in response to your letter of February 7, 2018, regarding the Equifax data breach and the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's (Bureau) response.

In certain circumstances, the Bureau has statutory authority under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act to supervise, or to conduct enforcement action against, certain persons engaged in the collection and maintenance of consumer report information. Where it has authority to do so, the Bureau will act in response to failures to engage in reasonable data security practices in connection with the collection and maintenance of consumer report information. The Bureau may also take appropriate action to make sure that those persons are not engaging in unfair, deceptive, or abusive acts or practices or violations of other Federal consumer financial laws.

The Bureau generally does not comment on open investigations. However, it is a matter of public record that the Bureau is looking into Equifax's data breach and response. Reports to the contrary are incorrect. We do not intend to comment further on the details or status of this investigation at this time.

Thank you for your interest in the Bureau's work. Should you have any further questions about this matter, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact Matthew Pippin in the Bureau's Office of Legislative Affairs. Mr. Pippin can be reached at (202) 435-7552.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mick" followed by a stylized flourish and the initials "CFPB" below it.

Mick Mulvaney
Acting Director

cc: The Honorable Robert Menendez, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Elizabeth Warren, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Sherrod Brown, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen, U.S. Senator

consumerfinance.gov

The Honorable Jon Tester, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Chris Van Hollen, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Tom Udall, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Heidi Heitkamp, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Tammy Duckworth, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Jeffrey A. Merkley, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Jack Reed, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Edward J. Markey, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Joe Donnelly, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Tina Smith, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Tammy Baldwin, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Kirsten Gillibrand, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Gary C. Peters, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Patty Murray, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Bernard Sanders, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Richard Blumenthal, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Angus S. King, Jr., U.S. Senator
The Honorable Ron Wyden, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Margaret Wood Hassan, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Mark R. Warner, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Amy Klobuchar, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Debbie Stabenow, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Richard J. Durbin, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Christopher S. Murphy, U.S. Senator
The Honorable Doug Jones, U.S. Senator