



Activation Code: Call 1-955-263-7908.

Dear Patient:

We are writing regarding a cyber-security incident at Eye Care Leaders (“ECL”), a vendor of Alabama Eye & Cataract, P.C. (“Alabama Eye”). ECL contracted with Alabama Eye to provide the electronic health record system for Alabama Eye, including storing patient information. The incident did not impact Alabama Eye’s ability to treat patients, and we have confirmed that patient information is complete and undamaged.

On April 19, 2022, ECL notified Alabama Eye that a cyber-attack had likely resulted in access to ECL’s database, which included patient data for those who have been treated at Alabama Eye or its affiliate Michelson Laser Vision, Inc. in Birmingham, Alabama. ECL was not able to confirm whether or not patient information was in fact accessed or taken. For that reason, out of an abundance of caution, we are providing you with this notice as a precaution so that you may take protective measures regarding your personal information. Alabama Eye has confirmed that ECL took actions after discovery of the incident to mitigate the risk to personal information. ECL was able to detect and stop the attack within twenty-four (24) hours from when the attack initiated. Shortly after stopping the attack, ECL began efforts to restore files and databases to limit the impact to patient information. ECL also notified law enforcement, including the FBI, about the attack.

We make it a priority to protect our patients’ personal health information, and we deeply regret any inconvenience or concern caused by this incident. ECL was obligated by contract and by law to maintain the confidentiality, availability, integrity and security of Alabama Eye’s patient information. As a result of this incident, Alabama Eye has terminated its contract with ECL and moved its patient information to a new vendor.

The personal health information potentially accessed varies between individuals and may include: name, address, date of birth, health insurance account number, social security number, and other personal health information, including medical records, imaging, and medications.

While we have no evidence that your personal information has in fact been accessed or misused, we urge you to protect your identity and financial information. If your personal health information was stored on ECL’s database, Alabama Eye has arranged for you to enroll, at no cost to you, in an online credit monitoring service (1-Bureau Credit Watch Gold) provided by Equifax, one of the three nationwide credit reporting companies.

To enroll in this service, go to the Equifax website at www.equifax.com/activate. For more information on how to enroll in credit monitoring, please call 955-263-7908, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

You can sign up for the credit monitoring service anytime between now and **September 30, 2022**. Due to privacy laws, we cannot register you directly. Please note that credit monitoring services might not be available for individuals who do not have a credit file with Equifax, or an address in the United States (or its territories) and a valid Social Security number. Enrolling in this service will not affect your credit score.

Once you are enrolled, you will be able to obtain **1 year** of unlimited access to your Equifax credit report and credit score. The daily credit monitoring service will notify you if there are any critical changes to your credit file at Equifax, including fraud alerts, new inquiries, new accounts, new public records, late payments, change of address and more. The service also includes access to an identity restoration program that provides assistance in the event that your identity is compromised to help you restore your identity and up to \$1,000,000 in identity theft insurance with no deductible. (Policy limitations and exclusions may apply.)

Whether or not you enroll in credit monitoring, we recommend that you place a “Fraud Alert” on your credit file. Fraud Alert messages notify potential credit grantors to verify your identification before extending credit in your name in case someone is using your information without your consent. A Fraud Alert can make it more difficult for someone to get credit in your name; however, please be aware that it also may delay your ability to obtain credit. Call only one of the following three nationwide credit reporting companies to place your Fraud Alert: TransUnion, Equifax, or Experian. As soon as the credit reporting company confirms your Fraud Alert, they will also forward your alert request to the other two nationwide credit reporting companies so you do not need to contact each of them separately. The contact information for the three nationwide credit reporting companies is:

Equifax
PO Box 740256
Atlanta, GA 30374
www.equifax.com
1-800-525-6285

TransUnion PO Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016
www.transunion.com/fraud
1-800-680-7289

Experian
PO Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
www.experian.com 1-888-
397-3742

If you have further questions or concerns or would like an alternative to enrolling online for identity theft services, please call 955-263-7908, Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

Sincerely,

Alabama Eye & Cataract Center, P.C.