

1 M. Anderson Berry, Esq. (SBN 262879)
Gregory Haroutunian, Esq. (SBN 330263)
2 **CLAYEO C. ARNOLD,**
A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORP.
3 865 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825
4 Telephone: (916) 239-4778
Facsimile: (916) 924-1829
5 Email: aberry@justice4you.com;
gharoutunian@justice4you.com

6 *Attorneys for Plaintiff and the Putative Class*
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9 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
10 **DISTRICT OF ARIZONA**
11

12 DANIEL TOOKER, individually and
13 on behalf of all others similarly situated,

14 Plaintiff,

15 v.

16 U-HAUL INTERNATIONAL, INC.

17 Defendant.
18

Case No.

CLASS ACTION COMPLAINT
JURY TRIAL DEMAND
COMPLEX

19 Plaintiff Daniel Tooker (“Plaintiff” or “Tooker”) brings this Class Action Complaint
20 against U-Haul International, Inc. (“U-Haul” or “Defendant”), individually and on behalf
21 of all others similarly situated (“Class Members”), and alleges, upon personal knowledge
22 as to his own actions and the investigations of his counsel, and upon information and belief
23 as to all other matters as follows:

24 **I. INTRODUCTION**

25 1. Plaintiff brings this class action against Defendant for its failure to properly
26 secure and safeguard personally identifiable information (“PII”) for past and current
27
28

1 customers of Defendant, including, but not limited to their: names, dates of birth, and
2 driver’s license numbers or state identification numbers¹.

3 2. According to Defendant’s website, “U-Haul is an American moving truck,
4 trailer, and self-storage rental company, based in Phoenix, Arizona, that has been in
5 operation since 1945.”²

6 3. Prior to and through April 5, 2022, Defendant obtained the PII of Plaintiff and
7 Class Members, including the PII of Plaintiff, who was a customer of Defendant, and stored
8 that PII, unencrypted, in an Internet-accessible database on Defendant’s network.

9 4. Defendant’s Privacy Policy (the “Privacy Policy”) is posted on its website,
10 and it represents, “[w]e use commercially reasonable physical, managerial, and technical
11 safeguards to preserve the integrity and security of your information and our systems. We
12 cannot, however, ensure or warrant the security of any information you transmit Us (sic)
13 and you do so at your own risk. However, please note that this is not a guarantee that such
14 information may not be accessed, disclosed, altered, or destroyed by breach of any of our
15 physical, technical, or managerial safeguards.”³

16 5. On or before August 1, 2022, Defendant learned of a data security incident on
17 its network (the “Data Breach”).

18 6. Defendant determined that, during the Data Breach, an unknown actor
19 compromised two unique passwords for accessing Defendant’s copies of contracts with
20 Defendant’s past customers, which includes Plaintiff and Class Members.

21 7. On or around September 9, 2022, Defendant notified the United States
22 Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) of the Data Breach.

23 8. On or around September 9, 2022, Defendant began notifying Class Members
24 of the Data Breach, including Plaintiff.⁴

25 ¹ Personally identifiable information is generally compromised of information that can be
26 used to distinguish or trace an individual’s identity, either alone or when combined with
27 other personal or identifiable information. 2 C.F.R. § 200.79.

² See <https://www.uhaul.com/About/History/> (last visited Sept. 19, 2022).

³ See <https://www.uhaul.com/Legal/PrivacyPolicy/> (last visited Sept. 21, 2022).

⁴ *U-Haul Notice of Data Breach*, State of California Department of Justice, Rob Bonita,

1 9. By obtaining, collecting, using, and deriving a benefit from the PII of Plaintiff
2 and Class Members, Defendant assumed legal and equitable duties to those individuals to
3 protect and safeguard their information against unauthorized access and intrusion.
4 Moreover, Defendant admits that the unencrypted PII accessed by an unauthorized actor
5 included name, date of birth, and driver's license number or state identification number.

6 10. Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII can be sold on the dark web. Hackers can
7 access and sell the unencrypted, unredacted PII to criminals, leaving Plaintiff and Class
8 Members virtually defenseless to these cyber criminals. Now Plaintiff and Class Members
9 face a lifetime risk of (i) identity theft, which is heightened by the loss of driver's license
10 numbers or state identification numbers, and (ii) the sharing or detrimental use of their
11 sensitive information.

12 11. The PII was compromised due to Defendant's negligent and/or careless acts
13 and omissions and the failure to protect the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members. In addition
14 to Defendant's failure to prevent the Data Breach, Defendant waited almost months after
15 the Data Breach allegedly ended to report it to the SEC and affected individuals. Defendant
16 has also purposefully maintained secret the specific vulnerabilities and root causes of the
17 breach and has not informed Plaintiff and Class Members of that information.

18 12. As a result of this delayed response, Plaintiff and Class Members had no idea
19 their PII had been compromised, and that they were, and continue to be, at significant risk
20 of identity theft and various other forms of personal, social, and financial harm, including
21 the sharing and detrimental use of their sensitive information. The risk will remain for their
22 respective lifetimes.

23 13. Plaintiff brings this action on behalf of all persons whose PII was compromised
24 as a result of Defendant's failure to: (i) adequately protect the PII of Plaintiff and Class
25 Members; (ii) warn Plaintiff and Class Members of Defendant's inadequate information
26 security practices; and (iii) effectively secure hardware containing protected PII using

27
28 Attorney General, <https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/U-Haul%20-%20California%20Notification.pdf>, (last visited on Sept. 19, 2022).

1 reasonable and effective security procedures free of vulnerabilities and incidents.
2 Defendant's conduct amounts to negligence and violates federal and state statutes.

3 14. Plaintiff and Class Members have suffered injury as a result of Defendant's
4 conduct. These injuries include: (i) lost or diminished value of PII; (ii) out-of-pocket
5 expenses associated with the prevention, detection, and recovery from identity theft, tax
6 fraud, and/or unauthorized use of their PII; (iii) lost opportunity costs associated with
7 attempting to mitigate the actual consequences of the Data Breach, including but not limited
8 to lost time, (iv) the disclosure of their private information, and (v) the continued and
9 certainly increased risk to their PII, which: (a) remains unencrypted and available for
10 unauthorized third parties to access and abuse; and (b) may remain backed up in Defendant's
11 possession and is subject to further unauthorized disclosures so long as Defendant fails to
12 undertake appropriate and adequate measures to protect the PII.

13 15. Defendant disregarded the rights of Plaintiff and Class Members by
14 intentionally, willfully, recklessly, or negligently failing to take and implement adequate and
15 reasonable measures to ensure that the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members was safeguarded,
16 failing to take available steps to prevent an unauthorized disclosure of data, and failing to
17 follow applicable, required and appropriate protocols, policies and procedures regarding the
18 encryption of data, even for internal use. As the result, the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members
19 was compromised through disclosure to an unauthorized third party. Plaintiff and Class
20 Members have a continuing interest in ensuring that their information is and remains safe,
21 and they should be entitled to injunctive and other equitable relief.

22 **II. PARTIES**

23 16. Plaintiff Daniel Tooker is a citizen and resident of Oklahoma residing in
24 Norman, Oklahoma.

25 17. Defendant is a Nevada Corporation with a principal place of business in
26 Phoenix, Arizona and is a subsidiary of AMERCO, Inc., also a Nevada Corporation.

27 18. The true names and capacities of persons or entities, whether individual,
28 corporate, associate, or otherwise, who may be responsible for some of the claims alleged

1 herein are currently unknown to Plaintiff. Therefore, Plaintiff will seek leave of court to
2 amend this complaint to reflect the true names and capacities of such other responsible
3 parties when their identities become known.

4 19. All of Plaintiff's claims stated herein are asserted against Defendant and any
5 of its owners, predecessors, successors, subsidiaries, agents, and/or assigns.

6
7 **III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

8 20. This Court has subject matter and diversity jurisdiction over this action under
9 28 U.S.C. § 1332(d) because this is a class action wherein the amount in controversy exceeds
10 the sum or value of \$5 million, exclusive of interest and costs, there are more than 100
11 members in the proposed class, and at least one Class Member, including Plaintiff, is a citizen
12 of a state different from Defendant to establish minimal diversity.

13 21. Defendant is a citizen of Nevada and Arizona because it is a corporation
14 formed under Nevada law, and its principal place of business is in Phoenix, Arizona.

15 22. The District of Arizona has personal jurisdiction over Defendant because
16 Defendant conducts substantial business in Arizona and this District.

17 23. Venue is proper in this District under 28 U.S.C. §1391(b) because Defendant
18 operates in this District, and a substantial part of the errors, events, or omissions giving rise
19 to Plaintiff's claims occurred in this District.

20
21 **IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS**

22 **A. THE DATA BREACH WAS FORESEEABLE**

23 24. Plaintiff and Class Members, who are past and current customers of Defendant,
24 provided and entrusted Defendant with sensitive and confidential information, including
25 their names, dates of birth, and driver's license or state identification numbers.

26 25. Plaintiff and Class Members relied on this sophisticated Defendant to keep
27 their PII confidential and securely maintained, to use this information for business purposes
28

1 only, and to make only authorized disclosures of this information. Plaintiff and Class
2 Members demand security to safeguard their PII.

3 26. Defendant had a duty to adopt reasonable measures to protect the PII of
4 Plaintiff and Class Members from involuntary disclosure to third parties.

5 *i. The Data Breach*

6 27. On or about September 9, 2022, Defendant sent Plaintiff and Class Members
7 a *Notice of Recent Security Incident*.⁵ Defendant informed Plaintiff and other Class
8 Members that:

9 **What Happened?**

10 We detected a compromise of two unique passwords that were used to access
11 a customer contract search tool that allows access to rental contracts for U-
12 Haul customers. The search tool cannot access payment card information; no
13 credit card information was accessed or acquired. Upon identifying the
14 compromised passwords, we promptly changed the passwords to prevent any
15 further unauthorized access to the search tool and started an investigation.
16 Cybersecurity experts were engaged to identify the contracts and data that were
17 involved. The investigation determined an unauthorized person accessed the
customer contract search tool and some customer contracts. None of our
financial, payment processing or U-Haul email systems were involved; the
access was limited to the customer contract search tool.

18 **What Information Was Involved?**

19 On August 1, 2022, our investigation determined some rental contracts were
20 accessed between November 5, 2021, and April 5, 2022. After an in-depth
21 analysis, our investigation determined on September 7, 2022, the accessed
22 information includes your name and driver's license or state identification
number.

23 **What We Are Doing?**

24 The safety and trust of our customers, including the protection of personal
25 information, is a top priority for U-Haul Company and we take that
26 responsibility very seriously. While the information accessed in this incident
27 did not include payment card information, we fully understand this is an
inconvenience to you. We sincerely apologize for that. Please know we are

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⁵ *Id.*

1 working diligently to further augment our security measures to guard against
2 such incidents and implementing additional security safeguards and controls
3 on the search tool.

4 28. Defendant also filed a notice with the SEC in its parent company
5 (AMERCO)'s Annual Report advising that the PII impacted included names, dates of birth,
6 driver's license numbers, or state identification numbers.⁶

7 29. Defendant also admitted, in the *Notice of Recent Security Incident*, that an
8 unauthorized actor accessed sensitive information about Plaintiff and Class Members,
9 including names, date of births, driver's license numbers or state identification numbers.

10 30. In response to the Data Breach, Defendant claims that cybersecurity experts
11 are "implementing additional security safeguards and controls to prevent further such
12 incidents."⁷ However, the details of the root cause of the Data Breach, the vulnerabilities
13 exploited, and the remedial measures undertaken to ensure a breach does not occur again
14 have not been shared with regulators or Plaintiff and Class Members, who retain a vested
15 interest in ensuring that their information remains protected. In short, mystery shrouds this
16 Data Breach, which further exposes Plaintiff and Class Members to continued harm.

17 31. The unencrypted PII of Plaintiff and Class Members may end up for sale on
18 the dark web, or simply fall into the hands of companies that will use the detailed PII for
19 targeted marketing without the approval of Plaintiff and Class Members. Unauthorized
20 individuals can easily access the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members and use it to exploit
21 and steal from Plaintiff and Class Members for the rest of their lives because of Defendant's
22 carelessness.

23 32. Defendant did not use reasonable security procedures and practices
24 appropriate to the nature of the sensitive, unencrypted information it was maintaining for
25 Plaintiff and Class Members, causing the exposure of PII for Plaintiff and Class Members.

26 _____
27 ⁶ AMERCO 2021 Annual Report, available at <https://www.amerco.com/reports.aspx> (last
28 visited Sept. 20, 2022).

⁷ *U-Haul Notice of Data Breach*, State of California Department of Justice, Rob Bonita,
Attorney General, [https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/U-Haul%20-
%20California%20Notification.pdf](https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/U-Haul%20-%20California%20Notification.pdf), (last visited on Sept. 20, 2022).

1 33. Because Defendant had a duty to protect Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII,
2 Defendant should have accessed readily available and accessible information about
3 potential threats for the unauthorized exfiltration and misuse of such information. Instead,
4 it left the vast troves of PII it collected from Plaintiff and Class Members lying in wait for
5 cybercriminals.

6 34. In the years immediately preceding the Data Breach, Defendant knew or
7 should have known that Defendant's computer systems were a target for cybersecurity
8 attacks because warnings were readily available and accessible via the internet. Cautionary
9 corporate tales of huge data breaches abounded, tales that should have been heeded by any
10 responsible business entity, which valued its customers.

11 35. Prior to the Data Breach, as part of its parent company's annual report filed
12 with the SEC in July 2021, Defendant acknowledged, in a statement that now rings hollow
13 and prophetic at the same time, that:

14 Our information systems are largely Internet-based, including our
15 point-of-sale reservation system, payment processing and telephone
16 systems. While our reliance on this technology lowers our cost of
17 providing service and expands our abilities to better serve customers, it
18 exposes us to various risks including natural and manmade disasters,
19 terrorist attacks and cyber-attacks. **We have put into place extensive
20 security protocols, backup systems and alternative procedures to
21 mitigate these risks.** However, disruptions or breaches, detected or
22 undetected by us, for any period of time in any portion of these systems
23 could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition
24 and inflict reputational damage.

25 In addition, the provision of service to our customers and **the operation
26 of our networks and systems involve the storage and transmission
27 of proprietary information and sensitive or confidential data,
28 including personal information of customers,** system members and
others. Our information technology systems may be susceptible to
computer viruses, attacks by computer hackers, malicious insiders, or
catastrophic events. Hackers, acting individually or in coordinated
groups, may also launch distributed denial of service attacks or ransom
or other coordinated attacks that may cause service outages or other
interruptions in our business and access to our data. **In addition,
breaches in security could expose us, our customers, or the**

1 **individuals affected, to a risk of loss or misuse of proprietary**
2 **information and sensitive or confidential data.** The techniques used
3 to obtain unauthorized access, disable or degrade service or sabotage
4 systems change frequently, may be difficult to detect for a long time
5 and often are not recognized until launched against a target. As a result,
6 we may be unable to anticipate these techniques or to implement
7 adequate preventative measures.

8 Any of these occurrences could result in disruptions in our operations,
9 the loss of existing or potential customers, damage to our brand and
10 reputation, and litigation and potential liability for the Company. In
11 addition, the cost and operational consequences of implementing
12 further data or system protection measures could be significant and our
13 efforts to deter, identify, mitigate and/or eliminate any security breaches
14 may not be successful. (emphasis added)⁸

15 36. Prior to the Data Breach, Defendant knew or should have known that there
16 was a foreseeable risk that Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII could be accessed, exfiltrated,
17 and published as the result of a cyberattack.

18 37. Prior to the Data Breach, Defendant knew or should have known that it erred
19 when it failed to encrypt the names, driver's license numbers or state identification numbers,
20 and other sensitive data elements within the PII to protect against their publication and
21 misuse in the event of a cyberattack.

22 **ii. Defendant Acquires, Collects, and Stores the PII of Plaintiff and**
23 **Class Members.**

24 38. As a condition of being a past or current customer of Defendant, Defendant
25 required that Plaintiff and Class Members entrust Defendant with highly confidential PII.

26 38. Defendant acquired, collected, and stored the PII of Plaintiff and Class
27 Members.

28 39. By obtaining, collecting, and storing the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members,
Defendant assumed legal and equitable duties and knew or should have known that it was
responsible for protecting the PII from disclosure.

⁸ AMERCO 2021 Annual Report, available at <https://www.amerco.com/reports.aspx> (last visited Sept. 20, 2022).

1 40. Plaintiff and Class Members have taken reasonable steps to maintain the
2 confidentiality of their PII and relied on Defendant to keep their PII confidential and
3 securely maintained, to use this information for business purposes only, and to make only
4 authorized disclosures of this information.

5 **iii. Securing PII and Preventing Breaches**

6 41. Defendant could have prevented this Data Breach by properly securing and
7 encrypting the folders, files, and or data fields containing the PII of Plaintiff and Class
8 Members. Alternatively, Defendant could have destroyed the PII it no longer had a
9 reasonable need to maintain or only stored data in an Internet-accessible environment when
10 there was a reasonable need to do so.

11 42. Defendant's negligence in safeguarding the PII of Plaintiff and Class
12 Members is exacerbated by the repeated warnings and alerts directed to protecting and
13 securing sensitive data, ones which it clearly was aware of before the date breach. *See*
14 §(IV)(A)(i) *supra*. Despite the prevalence of public announcements of data breach and data
15 security compromises, and its awareness of the risks, Defendant failed to take appropriate
16 steps to protect the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members from being compromised.

17 43. In 2019, a record 1,473 data breaches occurred, resulting in approximately
18 164,683,455 sensitive records being exposed, a 17% increase from 2018.⁹

19 44. Defendant was aware of the risk of data breaches because such breaches have
20 dominated the headlines in recent years, including high-profile breaches for Equifax, Target,
21 and various healthcare systems.¹⁰ This is especially true because Defendant collects much
22 of the same PII that financial institutions, healthcare providers, and insurers collect, which
23 includes, but is not limited to, names, addresses, credit card information, drivers' license
24 numbers or state identification numbers, and dates of birth. Because they collect this PII and
25

26 ⁹2019 End of Year Data Breach Report, Identity Theft Center (2019),
27 https://www.idtheftcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/01.28.2020_ITRC_2019-End-of-Year-Data-Breach-Report_FINAL_Highres-Appendix.pdf (last visited Sept. 20, 2022).

28 ¹⁰ Michel Hill and Dan Swinhoe, *The 15 biggest data breaches of the 21st century*, CSO, (Sept. 12, 2021), <https://www.csoonline.com/article/2130877/the-biggest-data-breaches-of-the-21st-century.html> (last visited Sept. 19, 2022).

1 let it be known that they collect this PII they are targeted by the same kinds of cybercriminals
2 who target financial institutions, healthcare systems, and insurance companies. This
3 targeting combined with Defendant's lax security measures made them a prime target for
4 cybercriminals, and it was one of the reasons this data breach was not only foreseeable but,
5 unfortunately, inevitable.

6 45. Drivers' license numbers are perhaps some of the most coveted of all PII
7 sought by cybercriminals. In 2021 alone, drivers' license numbers were taken from auto-
8 insurance providers by cybercriminals in attacks on many companies that collect similar PII
9 to Defendant, including GEICO, Farmers, USAA, Kemper, Metromile, and American
10 Family. This targeting of the auto-insurance industry and companies who gather and store
11 driver data such as drivers' license numbers demonstrates that the PII companies like
12 Defendant gather and possess is in high demand by cybercriminals. Likewise, sophisticated
13 multi-national companies like Defendant knew or should have known that their security
14 practices were of particular importance to safeguard consumer data.¹¹

15 46. In the first half of 2021, there were 846 data breaches in the country, on pace
16 to set a new record. These data breach incidents impacted nearly 52.8 million individuals.¹²

17 47. Indeed, cyberattacks have become so notorious that the Federal Bureau of
18 Investigation ("FBI") and U.S. Secret Service have issued a warning to potential targets so
19 they are aware of, and prepared for, a potential attack.

20 48. Therefore, the universal increase in such attacks, and attendant high risk of
21 future attacks, was widely known to the public and to anyone in Defendant's industry,
22 including Defendant.

23
24 **I. ¹¹ *Data Breaches Are Up 38 Percent in Q2 2021; The Identity Theft Resource***
25 ***Center Predicts a New All-Time High by Year's End, Identity Theft Resource***
26 ***Center (July 8, 2021),***
27 **[https://www.idtheftcenter.org/post/data-breaches-are-up-38-percent-in-q2-2021-the-](https://www.idtheftcenter.org/post/data-breaches-are-up-38-percent-in-q2-2021-the-identity-theft-resource-center-predicts-a-new-all-time-high-by-years-end/)**
28 **[identity-theft-resource-center-predicts-a-new-all-time-high-by-years-end/](https://www.idtheftcenter.org/post/data-breaches-are-up-38-percent-in-q2-2021-the-identity-theft-resource-center-predicts-a-new-all-time-high-by-years-end/) (last visited Sept.**
19, 2022).

1 49. The New York Department of Financial Services (“NYSDFS”), in their
2 February 16, 2021 industry letter recommended the following steps for entities that maintain
3 public-facing websites:

- 4 a. Conduct a thorough review of public-facing website security controls,
5 including but not limited to a review of its Secure Sockets Layer (SSL),
6 Transport Layer Security (TLS), and HTTP Strict Transport Security (HSTS
7 and Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) configurations.
- 8 b. Review public-facing websites for browser web developer tool functionality.
9 Verify and, if possible, limit the access that users may have to adjust, deface,
10 or manipulate website content using web developer tools on the public-facing
11 websites.
- 12 c. Review and confirm that its redaction and data obfuscation solution for NPI
13 is implemented properly throughout the entire transmission of the NPI until it
14 reaches the public-facing website.
- 15 d. Ensure that privacy protections are up to date and effectively protect NPI by
16 reviewing who is authorized to see NPI, which applications use NPI, and
17 where NPI resides.
- 18 e. Search and scrub public code repositories for proprietary code.
- 19 f. Block the IP addresses of the suspected unauthorized users and consider a
20 quote limit per user session.¹³

21 50. Due to the “ongoing cybercrime campaign that is a serious threat to
22 consumers,” NYSDFS issued a Cyber Fraud Alert Follow-up on March 30, 2021. They
23 urged “**personal lines insurers and other financial services companies to avoid**
24 **displaying prefilled NPI on public-facing websites considering the serious risk of theft**
25

26 ¹³ Industry Letter, *supra*, note 1. Note that this Industry Letter was reported online on
27 numerous websites, including: [https://digitalguardian.com/blog/public-facing-financial-](https://digitalguardian.com/blog/public-facing-financial-services-sites-ripe-data-theft)
28 [services-sites-ripe-data-theft](https://digitalguardian.com/blog/public-facing-financial-services-sites-ripe-data-theft)(Feb. 23, 2021); [https://www.gravoc.com/2021/04/09/cyber-](https://www.gravoc.com/2021/04/09/cyber-fraud-alert-issued-for-websites-collecting-npi/)
[fraud-alert-issued-for-websites-collecting-npi/](https://www.gravoc.com/2021/04/09/cyber-fraud-alert-issued-for-websites-collecting-npi/) (Apr. 9, 2021); and
https://www.dfs.ny.gov/industry_guidance/industry_letters/il20210216_cyber_fraud_alert
(Feb. 16, 2021) (last visited on Sept. 19, 2022).

1 **and consumer harm.** (Emphasis in original) We note that many of the auto insurers
2 targeted by this cybercrime campaign have recently disabled all NPI prefill on their public-
3 facing websites.”¹⁴

4 51. NYSDFS also recommended the following basic security steps be
5 implemented:

- 6 g. **Disable prefill of redacted NPI.** Avoid displaying prefilled NPI, especially
7 on public facing websites.
- 8 h. **Install Web Application Firewall (WAF).** WAFs help protect websites from
9 malicious attacks and exploitation of vulnerabilities by inspecting incoming
10 traffic for suspicious activity.
- 11 i. **Implement CAPTCHA.** Cybercriminals use automated programs or “bots”
12 to steal data. Completely Automated Public Turing Tests (“CAPTCHA”)
13 attempt to detect and block bots.
- 14 j. **Improve Access Controls for Agent Portals.** Agent portals typically allow
15 agents access to consumer NPI, and robust access controls are required by
16 DFS’s cybersecurity regulation.
- 17 k. **Training and awareness.** Employees and agents should be trained to identify
18 social engineering attacks. Employees and agents should know not to disclose
19 NPI, including DLNs, over the phone. Robotic scripts with grammatical errors
20 or repeated statements used during dialogue are key identifiers of fraudulent
21 calls.
- 22 l. **Limit access to NPI.** Employees and agents should only have access to
23 sensitive information that is necessary to do their job.
- 24 m. **Wait until payments have cleared before issuing a policy.** Auto insurers
25 should consider waiting until an eCheck, credit card, or debit card payment
26

27 ¹⁴Industry Letter, New York Department of Financial Services Industry Letter
28 ([https://www.dfs.ny.gov/industry_guidance/industry_letters/il20210330_cyber_alert_followu](https://www.dfs.ny.gov/industry_guidance/industry_letters/il20210330_cyber_alert_followup)
p, (last visited Sept. 19 2022).

1 has been cleared by the issuing bank before generating an online policy and
2 granting the policyholder access to NPI.

3 n. **Protect NPI received from data vendors.** Ensure that APIs used to pull data
4 files, including JSON and XML, from data vendors are not directly accessible
5 for the internet or agent portals.¹⁵

6 52. For these reasons, as this information is relevant to any entity that handles PII,
7 Defendant knew or should have known about these dangers and strengthened its data
8 protection and computer system/network accordingly. Defendant was on notice of the
9 substantial and foreseeable risk of harm from a data breach, yet Defendant failed to properly
10 prepare for that risk.

11 53. Defendant knowingly refrained from implementing basic security measures
12 to protect Plaintiff's and Class Members' PI, including motor vehicle records, in spite of
13 having control over the configuration and design of their online quoting platform.

14 **B. DEFENDANT FAILED TO FOLLOW FTC GUIDELINES**

15 54. The Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") has promulgated numerous guides
16 for businesses to highlight the importance of implementing reasonable data security
17 practices. According to the FTC, the need for data security should be factored into all
18 business decision- making.

19 55. In 2016, the FTC updated its publication, *Protecting Personal Information: A*
20 *Guide for Business*, which established cyber-security guidelines for businesses. The
21 guidelines note that businesses should protect the personal patient information that they
22 keep; properly dispose of personal information that is no longer needed; encrypt information
23 stored on computer networks; understand their network's vulnerabilities; and implement
24 policies to correct any security problems.¹⁶ The guidelines also recommend that businesses
25 use an intrusion detection system to expose a breach as soon as it occurs; monitor all

26 ¹⁵ *Id.*

27 ¹⁶Protecting Personal Information: A Guide for Business, Federal Trade Commission
28 (2016). https://www.ftc.gov/system/files/documents/plain-language/pdf-0136_proteting-personal-information.pdf (last visited Sept. 20, 2022).

1 incoming traffic for activity indicating someone is attempting to hack the system; watch for
2 large amounts of data being transmitted from the system; and have a response plan ready in
3 the event of a breach.¹⁷

4 56. The FTC further recommends that companies not maintain PII longer than is
5 needed for authorization of a transaction; limit access to sensitive data; require complex
6 passwords to be used on networks; use industry-tested methods for security; monitor for
7 suspicious activity on the network; and verify that third-party service providers have
8 implemented reasonable security measures.

9 57. The FTC has brought enforcement actions against businesses for failing to
10 adequately and reasonably protect consumer data, treating the failure to employ reasonable
11 and appropriate measures to protect against unauthorized access to confidential consumer
12 data as an unfair act or practice prohibited by Section 5 of the Federal Trade Commission
13 Act (“FTCA”), 15 U.S.C. § 45.

14 58. Defendant failed to properly implement basic data security practices.

15 59. Defendant failure to employ reasonable and appropriate measures to protect
16 against unauthorized access to consumers’ PII constitutes an unfair act or practice prohibited
17 by Section 5 of the FTC Act, 15 U.S.C. § 45.

18 60. Defendant was at all times fully aware of their obligation to protect the PII of
19 its subjects. Defendant was also aware of the significant repercussions that would result
20 from its failure to do so.

21 **C. DEFENDANT FAILED TO COMPLY WITH INDUSTRY**
22 **STANDARDS**

23 61. Several best practices have been identified that at a minimum should be
24 implemented by companies like Defendant, including but not limited to: educating all
25 employees; strong passwords; multi-layer security, including firewalls, anti-virus, and anti-
26 malware software; encryption, making data unreadable without a key; multi-factor
27 authentication; backup data; and limiting which employees can access sensitive data.

28 ¹⁷ *Id.*

1 62. Other best cybersecurity practices that are standard in the Defendant's
2 industry, and that upon information and belief Defendant did not employ, include installing
3 appropriate malware detection software; monitoring and limiting the network ports;
4 protecting web browsers and email management systems; setting up network systems such
5 as firewalls, switches and routers; monitoring and protection of physical security systems;
6 protection against any possible communication system; and training staff regarding critical
7 points.

8 63. Defendant failed to meet the minimum standards of any of the following
9 frameworks: the NIST Cybersecurity Framework Version 1.1 (including without limitation
10 PR.AC-1, PR.AC-3, PR.AC-4, PR.AC-5, PR.AC-6, PR.AC-7, PR.AT-1, PR.DS-1, PR.DS-
11 5, PR.PT-1, PR.PT-3, DE.CM-1, DE.CM-4, DE.CM-7, DE.CM-8, and RS.CO-2), and the
12 Center for Internet Security's Critical Security Controls (CIS CSC), which are all
13 established standards in reasonable cybersecurity readiness.

14 64. These foregoing frameworks are existing and applicable industry standards in
15 Defendant's industry, and Defendant failed to comply with these accepted standards,
16 thereby opening the door to and causing the Data Breach.

17 **D. DEFENDANT'S BREACH**

18 65. Defendant breached its obligations to Plaintiff and Class Members and/or was
19 otherwise negligent and reckless because it failed to properly maintain and safeguard its
20 computer systems and data. Defendant's unlawful conduct includes, but is not limited to,
21 the following acts and/or omissions:

- 22 a. Failing to maintain an adequate data security system to reduce the risk
23 of data breaches;
- 24 b. Failing to adequately protect consumers' PII;
- 25 c. Failing to properly monitor its own data security systems for existing
26 intrusions;

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- d. Failing to train its employees in the proper handling of data breaches, the protection of PII, and the maintenance of adequate email security practices;
- e. Failing to comply with the FTC guidelines for cybersecurity, in violation of Section 5 of the FTC Act; and,
- f. Failing to adhere to industry standards for cybersecurity.

66. Defendant negligently and unlawfully failed to safeguard Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ PII by allowing cyberthieves to access their IT systems which contained unsecured and unencrypted PII.

67. Accordingly, as outlined below, Plaintiff and Class Members now face a present and increased risk of fraud and identity theft.

E. HARM TO CONSUMERS

68. PII is such a valuable commodity to identity thieves that once the information has been compromised, criminals often trade the information on the “cyber black-market” for years.

69. Specifically, driver’s license numbers are incredibly valuable. “Hackers harvest license numbers because they’re a very valuable piece of information. A driver’s license can be a critical part of a fraudulent, synthetic identity – which go for about \$1200 on the Dark Web. On its own, a forged license can sell for around \$200.”¹⁸

70. According to national credit bureau Experian:

A driver's license is an identity thief's paradise. With that one card, someone knows your birthdate, address, and even your height, eye color, and signature. If someone gets your driver's license number, it is also concerning because it's connected to your vehicle registration and insurance policies, as well as records on file with the Department of Motor Vehicles, place of employment (that keep a copy of your driver's

¹⁸Lee Matthews, *Hackers Stole Customers’ License Numbers in Months-Long Breach*, Forbes (Apr. 20, 2021), <https://www.forbes.com/sites/leemathews/2021/04/20/hackers-stole-customers-license-numbers-from-geico-in-months-long-breach/?sh=3e4755c38658>. (last visited on Sept. 19, 2022).

1 license on file), doctor's office, government agencies, and other entities.
2 Having access to that one number can provide an identity thief with
several pieces of information they want to know about you.

3 Next to your Social Security number, your driver's license number is
4 one of the most important pieces of information to keep safe from
thieves.¹⁹

5
6 71. According to cyber security specialty publication CPO Magazine, “[t]o those
7 unfamiliar with the world of fraud, driver’s license numbers might seem like a relatively
8 harmless piece of information to lose if it happens in isolation.”²⁰ However, this is not the
9 case. As cyber security experts point out:

10 It’s a gold mine for hackers. With a driver’s license number, bad actors
11 can manufacture fake IDs, slotting in the number for any form that
12 requires ID verification, or use the information to craft curated social
engineering phishing attacks.²¹

13 72. Victims of driver’s license number theft also often suffer unemployment
14 benefit fraud, as described in a recent New York Times article.²²

15 73. There is a strong probability that entire batches of stolen information have
16 been dumped on the black market and are yet to be dumped on the black market, meaning
17 Plaintiff and Class Members are at a present and increased risk of fraud and identity theft
18 for many years into the future. Accordingly, Plaintiff and Class Members must vigilantly
19 guard against identity theft for many years to come.

20 74. Identity theft resulting from the Data Breach may not come to light for years.
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23 ¹⁹ Sue Poremba, *What Should I Do If My Driver’s License Number is Stolen?* (Oct. 24,
24 2018) [https://www.experian.com/blogs/ask-experian/what-should-i-do-if-my-drivers-
license-number-is-stolen/](https://www.experian.com/blogs/ask-experian/what-should-i-do-if-my-drivers-license-number-is-stolen/) (last visited Sept. 19, 2022).

25 ²⁰ Scott Ikedia, *Geico Data Breach Leaks Driver’s License Numbers, Advises Customers to*
26 *Watch Out for Fraudulent Unemployment Claims*, CPO Magazine (Apr. 23, 2021),
[https://www.cpomagazine.com/cyber-security/geico-data-breach-leaks-drivers-license-
numbers-advises-customers-to-watch-out-for-fraudulent-unemployment-claims/](https://www.cpomagazine.com/cyber-security/geico-data-breach-leaks-drivers-license-numbers-advises-customers-to-watch-out-for-fraudulent-unemployment-claims/) (last visited
27 Sept. 19, 2022).

28 ²¹ *Id.*

²² *How Identity Thieves Took My Wife for a Ride*, NY Times, April 27, 2021
<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/04/27/your-money/identity-theft-auto-insurance.html> (last
accessed Sept. 19, 2022).

1 75. There may be a time lag between when harm occurs versus when it is
2 discovered, and also between when Personally Identifiable Information is stolen and when
3 it is used.

4 76. At all relevant times, Defendant knew, or reasonably should have known, of
5 the importance of safeguarding the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members, including
6 information obtained from motor vehicle records, and of the foreseeable consequences that
7 would occur if Defendant's data security system and network was breached, including,
8 specifically, the significant costs that would be imposed on Plaintiff and Class Members as
9 a result of a breach.

10 77. Defendant knew or should have known about these dangers and strengthened
11 its data, IT, and email handling systems accordingly. Defendant was put on notice of the
12 substantial and foreseeable risk of harm from a data breach, yet it failed to properly prepare
13 for that risk.

14 **F. HARM TO PLAINTIFF**

15 *Plaintiff Daniel Tooker's Experience*

16 78. Plaintiff was required to provide and did provide his PII to Defendant. The
17 PII included his name, date of birth, address, email address, telephone number, and driver's
18 license number.

19 79. To date, U-Haul has done next to nothing to adequately protect Plaintiff and
20 Class Members, or to compensate them for their injuries sustained in this Data Breach,
21 offering only an optional subscription to Equifax's Identity Theft Protection program.

22 80. Defendant's data breach notice letter downplays the theft of Plaintiff's and
23 Class Members' PII, when the facts demonstrate that the PII was targeted, accessed, and
24 exfiltrated in a criminal cyberattack. The fraud and identity monitoring services offered by
25 Defendant are only for one year, and it places the burden squarely on Plaintiff and Class
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1 Members by requiring them to expend time signing up for the service and addressing timely
2 issues when the service number for enrollment does not work properly.

3 81. Plaintiff and Class Members have been further damaged by the compromise
4 of their PII.

5 82. Plaintiff Tooker's PII was compromised in the Data Breach and was likely
6 stolen and in the hands of cybercriminals who illegally accessed U-Haul International's
7 network for the specific purpose of targeting the PII.
8

9 83. Plaintiff Tooker typically takes measures to protect his PII and is very careful
10 about sharing his PII. He has never knowingly transmitted unencrypted PII over the internet
11 or other unsecured source.
12

13 84. Plaintiff Tooker stores any documents containing his PII in a safe and secure
14 location. And he diligently chooses unique usernames and passwords for his online
15 accounts.
16

17 85. As a result of the Data Breach, Plaintiff has diligently monitored his credit
18 and financial accounts, while constantly worrying about what his PII could be used for in
19 the future by any third-party with access to the dark web.
20

21 86. As a result of the Data Breach, Plaintiff has suffered a loss of time and has
22 spent and continues to spend a considerable amount of time on issues related to this Data
23 Breach. He monitors accounts and credit scores and has sustained emotional distress. This
24 is time that was lost and unproductive and took away from other activities and duties.
25

26 87. Since the Data Breach, Plaintiff has also experienced a substantial increase
27 in phishing attacks on his email account, as well as a sharp increase in spam to his phone in
28 the form of texts and calls.

1 All persons whose Personally Identifiable Information was maintained on
2 Defendant's system that was compromised in the Data Breach, and who were sent a
3 notice of the Data Breach (the "Class").

4 94. Excluded from the Class are Defendant's officers and directors; any entity in
5 which Defendant has a controlling interest; and the affiliates, legal representatives,
6 attorneys, successors, heirs, and assigns of Defendant. Also excluded from the Class are
7 members of the judiciary to whom this case is assigned, their families and Members of their
8 staff.

9 95. **Numerosity**. The Members of the Class are so numerous that joinder of all of
10 them is impracticable. While the exact number of Class Members is unknown to Plaintiff at
11 this time, based on information and belief, the Class consists of over 2.1 million individuals
12 whose sensitive data was compromised in the Data Breach.

13 96. **Commonality**. There are questions of law and fact common to the Class,
14 which predominate over any questions affecting only individual Class Members. These
15 common questions of law and fact include, without limitation:

- 16 a. Whether the Defendant unlawfully used, maintained, lost, or disclosed
17 Plaintiff's and
18 Class Members' PII;
- 19 b. Whether the Defendant violated federal or state law with respect to the
20 allegations made herein;
- 21 c. Whether Defendant failed to implement and maintain reasonable security
22 procedures and practices appropriate to the nature and scope of the
23 information compromised in the Data Breach;
- 24 d. Whether Defendant's data security systems prior to, during, and after the Data
25 Breach complied with the applicable data security laws and regulations;
- 26 e. Whether Defendant's data security systems prior to and during the Data
27 Breach were consistent with industry standards, as applicable;
- 28 f. Whether Defendant's owed a duty to Class Members to safeguard their PII;

- 1 g. Whether Defendant's breached a duty to Class Members to safeguard their
- 2 PII;
- 3 h. Whether computer hackers obtained Class Members PII in the Data Breach;
- 4 i. Whether the Defendant knew or should have known that their data security
- 5 systems and monitoring processes were deficient;
- 6 j. Whether the Plaintiff and Class Members suffered legally cognizable injuries
- 7 as a result of the Defendant's misconduct;
- 8 k. Whether Defendant's conduct was negligent;
- 9 l. Whether Defendant violated the DPPA; and
- 10 m. Whether Plaintiff and Class Members are entitled to damages, civil penalties,
- 11 and/or injunctive relief;

12 97. **Typicality.** Plaintiff's claims are typical of those of other Class Members
13 because Plaintiff's information, like that of every other Class Member, was compromised
14 in the Data Breach.

15 98. **Adequacy of Representation.** Plaintiff will fairly and adequately represent
16 and protect the interests of the Members of the Class. Plaintiff's Counsel are competent and
17 experienced in litigating Class actions.

18 99. **Predominance.** Defendant has engaged in a common course of conduct
19 toward Plaintiff and Class Members, in that all of Plaintiff's and Class Members' data was
20 stored on the same computer system and unlawfully accessed in the same way. The common
21 issues arising from Defendant's conduct affecting Class Members set out above
22 predominate over any individualized issues. Adjudication of these common issues in a single
23 action has important and desirable advantages of judicial economy.

24 100. **Superiority.** A Class action is superior to other available methods for the
25 fair and efficient adjudication of the controversy. Class treatment of common questions of
26 law and fact is superior to multiple individual actions or piecemeal litigation. Absent a Class
27 action, most Class Members would likely find that the cost of litigating their individual
28 claims is prohibitively high and would therefore have no effective remedy. The prosecution

1 of separate actions by individual Class Members would create a risk of inconsistent or
2 varying adjudications with respect to individual Class Members, which would establish
3 incompatible standards of conduct for Defendant. In contrast, the conduct of this action as
4 a class action presents far fewer management difficulties, conserves judicial resources and
5 the parties' resources, and protects the rights of each Class Member.

6 101. Defendant has acted on grounds that apply generally to the Class as a whole,
7 so that Class certification, injunctive relief, and corresponding declaratory relief are
8 appropriate on a Class-wide basis.

9 **V. COUNTS**

10 **COUNT I**

11 **VIOLATION OF THE DRIVER'S PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT**

12 **18 U.S.C. § 2721, et seq.**

13 **(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class)**

14 102. Plaintiff and the Class reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1-101
15 as if fully alleged herein.

16 103. The Driver's Privacy Protection Act (the "DPPA") provides that "[a] person
17 who knowingly obtains, discloses or uses personal information, from a motor vehicle
18 record, for a purpose not permitted under this chapter shall be liable to the individual to
19 whom the information pertains." 18 U.S.C. § 2724.

20 104. The DPPA also restricts the resale and redisclosure of personal information,
21 and requires authorized recipients to maintain records of each individual and the permitted
22 purpose of the disclosure for a period of five years. 18 U.S.C. § 2721(c).

23 105. Under the DPPA, a "motor vehicle record" means any record that pertains to
24 a motor vehicle operator's permit, motor vehicle title, motor vehicle registration, or
25 identification card issued by a department of motor vehicles." 18 U.S.C. § 2725(1).

26 106. The DPPA defines "personal information" as "information that identifies an
27 individual, including an individual's photograph, social security number, driver
28

1 identification number, name, address (but not the 5-digit zip code), telephone number, and
2 medical or disability information...” 18 U.S.C. § 2725(3).

3 107. Drivers’ licenses are motor vehicle records which, and the drivers’ license
4 numbers (“driver identification number”) contained on them qualify as personal information
5 under the DPPA.

6 108. Defendant obtains, uses, discloses, resells, and rediscloses personal
7 information from its customers’ motor vehicle records, including, but not limited to, drivers’
8 license numbers, that they obtain directly from motor vehicle records agencies.

9 109. Defendant also obtains customers’ motor vehicle records through resellers
10 who sell such records.

11 110. Defendant knowingly used motor vehicle records for uses not permitted by
12 the DPPA, including sales, and marketing, among other impermissible uses.

13 111. Defendant knowingly failed to protect its computer systems and/or linked its
14 respective public websites to systems and/or networks storing, maintaining, and/or
15 obtaining Plaintiff’s and Class Members’ personal information, including the application
16 website.

17 112. During the time period starting on or before November 5, 2021, Defendant
18 made Plaintiff and Class Members’ personal information, including drivers’ license
19 numbers, available to thieves who removed that personal information from Defendant’s
20 computer systems. Defendant knowingly used and disclosed and/or redisclosed Plaintiff’s
21 and Class Members’ motor vehicle records and the personal information contained therein
22 to thieves, which is not an authorized use permitted by the DPPA pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §§
23 2724, 2721(b), and 2721(c).

24 113. As a result of the Unauthorized Data Disclosure, Plaintiff and putative Class
25 Members are entitled to actual damages, liquidated damages, punitive damages, attorneys’
26 fees and costs.

27 ///

COUNT II
NEGLIGENCE
(On Behalf of Plaintiff and the Class)

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3 114. Plaintiff and the Class reallege and incorporate by reference paragraphs 1-101
4 as if fully alleged herein.

5 115. Defendant owed Plaintiff and the Class Members the duty of reasonable care,
6 which included, but was not limited to, protecting their PII.

7 116. Defendant obtained Plaintiff's and Class Members' PII, including but not
8 limited to their name and drivers' license numbers or state identification numbers.

9 117. As a condition of being past and current customers of Defendant, Plaintiff and
10 Class Members were obligated to provide and entrust Defendant with certain PII.

11 118. Plaintiff and Class Members entrusted their PII to Defendant with the
12 understanding that Defendant would safeguard their information, use their PII for business
13 purposes only, and not disclose their PII to third parties.

14 119. By collecting and storing this data, and sharing it and using it for commercial
15 gain, Defendant had and/or voluntarily undertook a duty of care to use reasonable means to
16 secure and safeguard this information, to prevent disclosure of the information, and to guard
17 the information from theft.

18 120. More specifically, Defendant's duty included a responsibility to implement a
19 process by which it could detect a breach of its security systems in a reasonably expeditious
20 period of time and give prompt notice to those affected in the case of a data breach.

21 121. Defendant also owed a duty of care to Plaintiff and the Class Members to
22 provide security consistent with industry standards, and to ensure that its systems and
23 networks and the personnel responsible for them adequately protected their customers'
24 information.

25 122. Defendant knew or reasonably should have known that the failure to exercise
26 reasonable care in collecting, storing, and using of the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members
27 involved an unreasonable risk of harm to Plaintiff and Class Members, even if the harm
28 occurred through the criminal acts of a third party.

1 123. Only Defendant was in a position to ensure that its systems were sufficient to
2 protect against the harm to Plaintiff and the Class Members from a data breach. Defendant
3 breached its duty by failing to use reasonable measures to protect Plaintiff's and Class
4 Members' PII.

5 124. Defendant has admitted that the PII of Plaintiff and the Class Members was
6 wrongfully lost and disclosed to unauthorized third persons as a result of the Data Breach.

7 125. Defendant, through its actions and/or omissions, unlawfully breached its
8 duties to Plaintiff and Class Members by failing to implement industry protocols and
9 exercise reasonable care in protecting and safeguarding the PII of Plaintiff and the Class
10 Members during the time the PII was within Defendant's possession or control.

11 126. Defendant improperly and inadequately safeguarded the PII of Plaintiff and
12 the Class Members in deviation of standard industry rules, regulations, and practices at the
13 time of the Data Breach.

14 127. Defendant failed to heed industry warnings and alerts to provide adequate
15 safeguards to protect the PII of Plaintiff and the Class Members in the face of increased risk
16 of theft.

17 128. Defendant, through its actions and/or omissions, unlawfully breached its duty
18 to Plaintiff and the Class Members by failing to have appropriate procedures in place to
19 detect and prevent dissemination of the PII.

20 129. Defendant breached its duty to exercise appropriate clearinghouse practices
21 by failing to remove from the Internet-accessible environment any PII it was no longer
22 required to retain pursuant to regulations and which Defendant had no reasonable need to
23 maintain in an Internet-accessible environment.

24 130. Defendant, through its actions and/or omissions, unlawfully breached its duty
25 to adequately and timely disclose to Plaintiff and the Class Members the existence and scope
26 of the Data Breach.

1 131. But for Defendant's wrongful and negligent breach of duties owed to Plaintiff
2 and the Class Members, the PII of Plaintiff and the Class Members would not have been
3 compromised.

4 132. There is a close causal connection between Defendant's failure to implement
5 security measures to protect the PII of Plaintiff and the Class Members and the harm, or risk
6 of imminent harm, suffered by Plaintiff and the Class Members. The PII of Plaintiff and the
7 Class Members was lost and accessed as the proximate result of Defendant's failure to
8 exercise reasonable care in safeguarding such PII by adopting, implementing, and
9 maintaining appropriate security measures.

10 133. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's negligence, Plaintiff and the
11 Class Members have suffered and will suffer injury, including but not limited to: (i) actual
12 identity theft; (ii) the loss of the opportunity of how its PII is used; (iii) the compromise,
13 publication, and/or theft of its PII; (iv) out-of-pocket expenses associated with the
14 prevention, detection, and recovery from identity theft, tax fraud, and/or unauthorized use
15 of its PII; (v) lost opportunity costs associated with effort expended and the loss of
16 productivity addressing and attempting to mitigate the actual and future consequences of
17 the Data Breach, including but not limited to efforts spent researching how to prevent,
18 detect, contest, and recover from tax fraud and identity theft; (vi) costs associated with
19 placing freezes on credit reports; (vii) the continued risk to its PII, which remain in
20 Defendant's possession and is subject to further unauthorized disclosures so long as
21 Defendant fail to undertake appropriate and adequate measures to protect the PII of Plaintiff
22 and the Class Members; and (viii) future costs in terms of time, effort, and money that will
23 be expended to prevent, detect, contest, and repair the impact of the PII compromised as a
24 result of the Data Breach for the remainder of the lives of Plaintiff and the Class Members.

25 134. As a direct and proximate result of Defendant's negligence, Plaintiff and the
26 Class Members have suffered and will continue to suffer other forms of injury and/or harm,
27 including, but not limited to, anxiety, emotional distress, loss of privacy, and other
28 economic and non-economic losses.

1 142. Plaintiff and Class Members are consumers within the class of persons
2 Section 5 of the FTC Act (and similar state statutes), and the DPPA, were intended to
3 protect.

4 143. Moreover, the harm that has occurred is the type of harm the FTC Act (and
5 similar state statutes) and the DPPA were intended to guard against. Indeed, the FTC has
6 pursued over fifty enforcement actions against businesses which, as a result of their failure
7 to employ reasonable data security measures and avoid unfair and deceptive practices,
8 caused the same harm suffered by Plaintiff and Class Members. The DPPA was similarly
9 enacted as a direct result of failures to protect consumer privacy like those outlined above.

10 144. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' negligence, Plaintiff and Class
11 Members have been injured and are entitled to damages in an amount to be proven at trial.

12 **VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

13 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment as follows:

- 14
- 15 A. For an Order certifying this action as a class action and appointing Plaintiff
16 and counsel to represent the Class;
- 17 B. For equitable relief enjoining Defendant from engaging in the wrongful
18 conduct complained of herein pertaining to the misuse and/or disclosure of
19 Plaintiff and Class Members' Private Information, and from failing to issue
20 prompt, complete and accurate disclosures to Plaintiff and the Class;
- 21 C. For equitable relief compelling Defendant to utilize appropriate methods and
22 policies with respect to consumer data collection, storage, and safety, and to
23 disclose with specificity the type of PII compromised during the Data Breach;
- 24 D. For injunctive relief requested by Plaintiff, including but not limited to,
25 injunctive and other equitable relief as is necessary to protect the interests of
26 Plaintiff and Class Members, including but not limited to, an order:
- 27 i. prohibiting Defendant from engaging in the wrongful and unlawful acts
28 described herein;

- 1 ii. requiring Defendant to protect, including through encryption, all data
- 2 collected through the course of its business in accordance with all
- 3 applicable regulations, industry standards, and federal, state or local laws;
- 4 iii. requiring Defendant to delete, destroy, and purge the personal identifying
- 5 information of Plaintiff and Class Members unless Defendant can provide
- 6 to the Court reasonable justification for the retention and use of such
- 7 information when weighed against the privacy interests of Plaintiff and
- 8 Class Members;
- 9 iv. requiring Defendant to implement and maintain a comprehensive
- 10 Information Security Program designed to protect the confidentiality and
- 11 integrity of the PII of Plaintiff and Class Members;
- 12 v. prohibiting Defendant from maintaining the PII of Plaintiff and Class
- 13 Members on a cloud-based database;
- 14 vi. requiring Defendant to engage independent third-party security
- 15 auditors/penetration testers as well as internal security personnel to
- 16 conduct testing, including simulated attacks, penetration tests, and audits
- 17 on Defendant's systems on a periodic basis, and ordering Defendant to
- 18 promptly correct any problems or issues detected by such third-party
- 19 security auditors;
- 20 vii. requiring Defendant to engage independent third-party security auditors
- 21 and internal personnel to run automated security monitoring;
- 22 viii. requiring Defendant to audit, test, and train its security personnel
- 23 regarding any new or modified procedures;
- 24 ix. requiring Defendant to segment data by, among other things, creating
- 25 firewalls and access controls so that if one area of Defendant's network is
- 26 compromised, hackers cannot gain access to other portions of Defendant's
- 27 systems;
- 28

- 1 x. requiring Defendant to conduct regular database scanning and securing
2 checks;
- 3 xi. requiring Defendant to establish an information security training program
4 that includes at least annual information security training for all
5 employees, with additional training to be provided as appropriate based
6 upon the employees' respective responsibilities with handling personal
7 identifying information, as well as protecting the personal identifying
8 information of Plaintiff and Class Members;
- 9 xii. requiring Defendant to routinely and continually conduct internal training
10 and education, and on an annual basis to inform internal security personnel
11 how to identify and contain a breach when it occurs and what to do in
12 response to a breach;
- 13 xiii. requiring Defendant to implement a system of tests to assess its
14 employees' knowledge of the education programs discussed in the
15 preceding subparagraphs, as well as randomly and periodically testing
16 employees' compliance with Defendant's policies, programs, and systems
17 for protecting personal identifying information;
- 18 xiv. requiring Defendant to implement, maintain, regularly review, and revise
19 as necessary a threat management program designed to appropriately
20 monitor Defendant's information networks for threats, both internal and
21 external, and assess whether monitoring tools are appropriately
22 configured, tested, and updated;
- 23 xv. requiring Defendant to meaningfully educate all Class Members about the
24 threats that they face as a result of the loss of their confidential PII to third
25 parties, as well as the steps affected individuals must take to protect
26 themselves;
- 27 xvi. requiring Defendant to implement logging and monitoring programs
28 sufficient to track traffic to and from Defendant's servers; and for a period

1 of 10 years, appointing a qualified and independent third-party assessor to
2 conduct a SOC 2 Type 2 attestation on an annual basis to evaluate
3 Defendant's compliance with the terms of the Court's final judgment, to
4 provide such report to the Court and to counsel for the class, and to report
5 any deficiencies with compliance of the Court's final judgment;

6 E. Ordering Defendant to pay for a lifetime of credit monitoring services for
7 Plaintiff and the Class;

8 F. For an award of actual damages and compensatory damages, as allowable by
9 law;

10 G. For an award of punitive damages, as allowable by law;

11 H. For an award of attorneys' fees and costs, and any other expense, including
12 expert witness fees;

13 I. Pre- and post-judgment interest on any amounts awarded; and

14 J. Such other and further relief as this court may deem just and proper.

15
16 **JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

17 Jury trial is demanded by Plaintiff and members of the putative Class.

18 DATED: September 23, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

19
20 By:



21 M. ANDERSON BERRY
22 (*pro hac vice* forthcoming)
23 GREGORY HAROUTUNIAN
24 (*pro hac vice* forthcoming)
25 **CLAYEO C. ARNOLD,**
26 **A PROFESSIONAL LAW CORP.**
27 865 Howe Avenue
28 Sacramento, CA 95825
Telephone: (916) 239-4778
Facsimile: (916) 924-1829
Email: aberry@justice4you.com
gharoutunian@justice4you.com