



The Office Of State Treasurer
Denise L. Nappier

News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONSUMER ALERT: PROTECTING PERSONAL FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOLLOWING THE HOME DEPOT DATA BREACH

HARTFORD, CT – State Treasurer Denise L. Nappier today encouraged holders of prepaid debit cards issued by JPMorgan Chase, who may have been affected by a security breach at The Home Depot, to take precautions to ensure that no unauthorized activity has occurred with any of their accounts.

The Home Depot has confirmed that a data breach could extend back to April of 2014 and affect all of its 2,266 stores in the United States.

JPMorgan Chase, which issues prepaid debit cards on behalf of the State's Department of Revenue Services, Department of Labor, Department of Social Services, and Department of Children and Families, has notified the Office of the State Treasurer that 214 cardholders, who used their cards at The Home Depot since April, may be affected.

Treasurer Nappier advised cardholders to:

- Scrutinize their financial accounts, including bank and credit card accounts, to check for any activity that they did not authorize. Anyone who detects any unauthorized activity in a financial account should notify their financial institution promptly.
- Take advantage of The Home Depot's offer to provide free identity protection services, including credit and identity monitoring and an identity theft insurance policy, to any customers who used a payment card at The Home Depot since April 2014. For more information on this service and to enroll, visit <https://homedepot.allclearid.com>.
- Monitor their JPMorgan Chase prepaid debit card accounts and call the number on the back of their card if they see activity on the card that is not theirs, including withdrawals and purchases they do not recognize.

In addition, state residents should be wary of any callers offering credit or identity theft protection services, as such calls may be an attempt to elicit private consumer information.

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If concerned about fraudulent activity, consumers may contact one of the three national credit reporting bureaus and ask them to look for suspicious activity. Individuals are entitled to one free credit report a year. More information is available at www.annualcreditreport.com.

Residents also should report fraudulent activity to the Department of Consumer Protection's Fraud Division at 1-800-842-2649 or DCP.Frauds@ct.gov.

"We owe it to our customers to alert them that we now have enough evidence to confirm that a breach has indeed occurred," The Home Depot Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Frank Blake said in a statement. "It is important to emphasize that no customers will be responsible for fraudulent charges to their accounts."

The Home Depot said that those who detect fraudulent charges should report the suspicious transactions in a timely manner to the financial institution that issued their card. Either that financial institution or The Home Depot will be responsible for the fraudulent charges.

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