

# BARADA ASSOCIATES

Dear New Client,

Attached are documents you should keep on file regarding your compliance obligations. Below is a quick reference point for each document.

**NOTICE TO USER:** Documents your obligations under the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) on the use of a Consumer Reporting Agency (CRA). Barada Associates is a CRA.

**SUMMARY OF RIGHTS:** This is a stand-alone copy of the Summary of Rights. Please provide it to any applicant who asks for a copy of their background check.

**REMEDYING THE EFFECTS OF IDENTITY THEFT:** If an applicant or employee indicates that they think they may be a victim of identity theft, please provide them with a copy of this document.

**APPLICANT DISCLOSURE:** This is a sample form for your use. Per FCRA, you must obtain a signed disclosure prior to ordering a background check.

**APPLICANT RELEASE:** This is a sample form for your use. Per FCRA, you must obtain a signed disclosure prior to ordering a background check.

**PRE-ADVERSE ACTION LETTER:** This is a sample letter for your use should you decide to take adverse action based in whole or in part on information contained in the background report.

**FINAL ADVERSE ACTION LETTER:** This is a sample letter for your use notifying your applicant that a final adverse action decision was made based in whole in part on the information contained in the background report.

Please let us know if you have any questions regarding the attached. You can also find additional information at <http://www.consumerfinance.gov>.

Thank you and we look for working with you.

Sincerely,

**BARADA ASSOCIATES**

**All users of consumer reports must comply with all applicable regulations. Information about applicable regulations currently in effect can be found at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's website, [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore).**

## **NOTICE TO USERS OF CONSUMER REPORTS: OBLIGATIONS OF USERS UNDER THE FCRA**

The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), 15 U.S.C. §1681-1681y, requires that this notice be provided to inform users of consumer reports of their legal obligations. State law may impose additional requirements. The text of the FCRA is set forth in full at the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection's website at [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore). At the end of this document is a list of United States Code citations for the FCRA. Other information about user duties is also available at the Bureau's website. **Users must consult the relevant provisions of the FCRA for details about their obligations under the FCRA.**

The first section of this summary sets forth the responsibilities imposed by the FCRA on all users of consumer reports. The subsequent sections discuss the duties of users of reports that contain specific types of information, or that are used for certain purposes, and the legal consequences of violations. If you are a furnisher of information to a consumer reporting agency (CRA), you have additional obligations and will receive a separate notice from the CRA describing your duties as a furnisher.

### **I. OBLIGATIONS OF ALL USERS OF CONSUMER REPORTS**

#### **A. Users Must Have a Permissible Purpose**

Congress has limited the use of consumer reports to protect consumers' privacy. All users must have a permissible purpose under the FCRA to obtain a consumer report. Section 604 contains a list of the permissible purposes under the law. These are:

- As ordered by a court or a federal grand jury subpoena. Section 604(a)(1)
- As instructed by the consumer in writing. Section 604(a)(2)
- For the extension of credit as a result of an application from a consumer, or the review or collection of a consumer's account. Section 604(a)(3)(A)
- For employment purposes, including hiring and promotion decisions, where the consumer has given written permission. Sections 604(a)(3)(B) and 604(b)2
- For the underwriting of insurance as a result of an application from a consumer. Section 604(a)(3)(C)
- When there is a legitimate business need, in connection with a business transaction that is initiated by the consumer. Section 604(a)(3)(F)(i)
- To review a consumer's account to determine whether the consumer continues to meet the terms of the account. Section 604(a)(3)(F)(ii)
- To determine a consumer's eligibility for a license or other benefit granted by a governmental instrumentality required by law to consider an applicant's financial responsibility or status. Section 604(a)(3)(D)
- For use by a potential investor or servicer, or current insurer, in a valuation or assessment of the credit or prepayment risks associated with an existing credit obligation. Section 604(a)(3)(E)
- For use by state and local officials in connection with the determination of child support payments, or modifications and enforcement thereof. Sections 604(a)(4) and 604(a)(5)

In addition, creditors and insurers may obtain certain consumer report information for the purpose of making "prescreened" unsolicited offers of credit or insurance. Section 604(c). The particular obligations of users of "prescreened" information are described in Section VII below.

#### **B. Users Must Provide Certifications**

Section 604(f) prohibits any person from obtaining a consumer report from a consumer reporting agency (CRA) unless the person has certified to the CRA the permissible purpose(s) for which the report is being obtained and certifies that the report will not be used for any other purpose.

#### **C. Users Must Notify Consumers When Adverse Actions Are Taken**

The term "adverse action" is defined very broadly by Section 603. "Adverse actions" include all business, credit, and employment actions affecting consumers that can be considered to have a negative impact as defined by Section 603(k) of the FCRA – such as denying or canceling credit or insurance, or denying employment or promotion. No adverse action occurs in a credit transaction where the creditor makes a counteroffer that is accepted by the consumer.

##### **1. Adverse Actions Based on Information Obtained From a CRA**

If a user takes any type of adverse action as defined by the FCRA that is based at least in part on information contained in a consumer report, Section 615(a) requires the user to notify the consumer. The notification may be done in writing, orally, or by electronic means. It must include the following:

- The name, address, and telephone number of the CRA (including a toll-free telephone number, if it is a nationwide CRA) that provided the report.
- A statement that the CRA did not make the adverse decision and is not able to explain why the decision was made.
- A statement setting forth the consumer's right to obtain a free disclosure of the consumer's file from the CRA if the consumer makes a request within 60 days.
- A statement setting forth the consumer's right to dispute directly with the CRA the accuracy or completeness of any information provided by the CRA.

## **2. Adverse Actions Based on Information Obtained From Third Parties Who Are Not Consumer Reporting Agencies**

If a person denies (or increases the charge for) credit for personal, family, or household purposes based either wholly or partly upon information from a person other than a CRA, and the information is the type of consumer information covered by the FCRA, Section 615(b)(1) requires that the user clearly and accurately disclose to the consumer his or her right to be told the nature of the information that was relied upon if the consumer makes a written request within 60 days of notification. The user must provide the disclosure within a reasonable period of time following the consumer's written request.

## **3. Adverse Actions Based on Information Obtained From Affiliates**

If a person takes an adverse action involving insurance, employment, or a credit transaction initiated by the consumer, based on information of the type covered by the FCRA, and this information was obtained from an entity affiliated with the user of the information by common ownership or control, Section 615(b)(2) requires the user to notify the consumer of the adverse action. The notice must inform the consumer that he or she may obtain a disclosure of the nature of the information relied upon by making a written request within 60 days of receiving the adverse action notice. If the consumer makes such a request, the user must disclose the nature of the information not later than 30 days after receiving the request. If consumer report information is shared among affiliates and then used for an adverse action, the user must make an adverse action disclosure as set forth in I.C.1 above.

### **D. Users Have Obligations When Fraud and Active Duty Military Alerts are in Files**

When a consumer has placed a fraud alert, including one relating to identify theft, or an active duty military alert with a nationwide consumer reporting agency as defined in Section 603(p) and resellers, Section 605A(h) imposes limitations on users of reports obtained from the consumer reporting agency in certain circumstances, including the establishment of a new credit plan and the issuance of additional credit cards. For initial fraud alerts and active duty alerts, the user must have reasonable policies and procedures in place to form a belief that the user knows the identity of the applicant or contact the consumer at a telephone number specified by the consumer; in the case of extended fraud alerts, the user must contact the consumer in accordance with the contact information provided in the consumer's alert.

### **E. Users Have Obligations When Notified of an Address Discrepancy**

Section 605(h) requires nationwide CRAs, as defined in Section 603(p), to notify users that request reports when the address for a consumer provided by the user in requesting the report is substantially different from the addresses in the consumer's file. When this occurs, users must comply with regulations specifying the procedures to be followed. Federal regulations are available at [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore).

### **F. Users Have Obligations When Disposing of Records**

Section 628 requires that all users of consumer report information have in place procedures to properly dispose of records containing this information. Federal regulations have been issued that cover disposal.

## **II. CREDITORS MUST MAKE ADDITIONAL DISCLOSURES**

If a person uses a consumer report in connection with an application for, or a grant, extension, or provision of, credit to a consumer on material terms that are materially less favorable than the most favorable terms available to a substantial proportion of consumers from or through that person, based in whole or in part on a consumer report, the person must provide a risk-based pricing notice to the consumer in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

Section 609(g) requires a disclosure by all persons that make or arrange loans secured by residential real property (one to four units) and that use credit scores. These persons must provide credit scores and other information about credit scores to applicants, including the disclosure set forth in Section 609(g)(1)(D) ("Notice to the Home Loan Applicant").

## **III. OBLIGATIONS OF USERS WHEN CONSUMER REPORTS ARE OBTAINED FOR EMPLOYMENT PURPOSES**

### **A. Employment Other Than in the Trucking Industry**

If information from a CRA is used for employment purposes, the user has specific duties, which are set forth in Section 604(b) of the FCRA. The user must:

- Make a clear and conspicuous written disclosure to the consumer before the report is obtained, in a document that consists solely of the disclosure, that a consumer report may be obtained.
- Obtain from the consumer prior written authorization. Authorization to access reports during the term of employment may be obtained at the time of employment.
- Certify to the CRA that the above steps have been followed, that the information being obtained will not be used in violation of any federal or state equal opportunity law or regulation, and that, if any adverse action is to be taken based on the consumer report, a copy of the report and a summary of the consumer's rights will be provided to the consumer.
- **Before** taking an adverse action, the user must provide a copy of the report to the consumer as well as the summary of consumer's rights (The user should receive this summary from the CRA.) A Section 615(a) adverse action notice should be sent after the adverse action is taken.

An adverse action notice also is required in employment situations if credit information (other than transactions and experience data) obtained from an affiliate is used to deny employment. Section 615(b)(2)

The procedures for investigative consumer reports and employee misconduct investigations are set forth below.

## **B. Employment in the Trucking Industry**

Special rules apply for truck drivers where the only interaction between the consumer and the potential employer is by mail, telephone, or computer. In this case, the consumer may provide consent orally or electronically, and an adverse action may be made orally, in writing, or electronically. The consumer may obtain a copy of any report relied upon by the trucking company by contacting the company.

## **IV. OBLIGATIONS WHEN INVESTIGATIVE CONSUMER REPORTS ARE USED**

Investigative consumer reports are a special type of consumer report in which information about a consumer's character, general reputation, personal characteristics, and mode of living is obtained through personal interviews by an entity or person that is a consumer reporting agency. Consumers who are the subjects of such reports are given special rights under the FCRA. If a user intends to obtain an investigative consumer report, Section 606 requires the following:

- The user must disclose to the consumer that an investigative consumer report may be obtained. This must be done in a written disclosure that is mailed, or otherwise delivered, to the consumer at some time before or not later than three days after the date on which the report was first requested. The disclosure must include a statement informing the consumer of his or her right to request additional disclosures of the nature and scope of the investigation as described below, and the summary of consumer rights required by Section 609 of the FCRA. (The summary of consumer rights will be provided by the CRA that conducts the investigation.)
- The user must certify to the CRA that the disclosures set forth above have been made and that the user will make the disclosure described below.
- Upon the written request of a consumer made within a reasonable period of time after the disclosures required above, the user must make a complete disclosure of the nature and scope of the investigation. This must be made in a written statement that is mailed or otherwise delivered, to the consumer no later than five days after the date on which the request was received from the consumer or the report was first requested, whichever is later in time.

## **V. SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR EMPLOYEE INVESTIGATIONS**

Section 603(x) provides special procedures for investigations of suspected misconduct by an employee or for compliance with Federal, state or local laws and regulations or the rules of a self-regulatory organization, and compliance with written policies of the employer. These investigations are not treated as consumer reports so long as the employer or its agent complies with the procedures set forth in Section 603(x), and a summary describing the nature and scope of the inquiry is made to the employee if an adverse action is taken based on the investigation.

## **VI. OBLIGATIONS OF USERS OF MEDICAL INFORMATION**

Section 604(g) limits the use of medical information obtained from consumer reporting agencies (other than payment information that appears in a coded form that does not identify the medical provider). If the information is to be used for an insurance transaction, the consumer must give consent to the user of the report or the information must be coded. If the report is to be used for employment purposes – or in connection with a credit transaction (except as provided in federal regulations) – the consumer must provide specific written consent and the medical information must be relevant. Any user who receives medical information shall not disclose the information to any other person (except where necessary to carry out the purpose for which the information was disclosed, or a permitted by statute, regulation, or order).

## **VII. OBLIGATIONS OF USERS OF "PRESCREENED" LISTS**

The FCRA permits creditors and insurers to obtain limited consumer report information for use in connection with unsolicited offers of credit or insurance under certain circumstances. Sections 603(1), 604(c), 604(e), and 614(d). This practice is known as "prescreening"

and typically involves obtaining from a CRA a list of consumers who meet certain preestablished criteria. If any person intends to use prescreened lists, that person must (1) before the offer is made, establish the criteria that will be relied upon to make the offer and grant credit or insurance, and (2) maintain such criteria on file for a three-year period beginning on the date on which the offer is made to each consumer. In addition, any user must provide with each written solicitation a clear and conspicuous statement that:

- Information contained in a consumer's CRA file was used in connection with the transaction.
- The consumer received the offer because he or she satisfied the criteria for credit worthiness or insurability used to screen for the offer.
- Credit or insurance may not be extended if, after the consumer responds, it is determined that the consumer does not meet the criteria used for screening or any applicable criteria bearing on credit worthiness or insurability, or the consumer does not furnish required collateral.
- The consumer may prohibit the use of information in his or her file in connection with future prescreened offers of credit or insurance by contacting the notification system established by the CRA that provided the report. The statement must include the address and toll-free telephone number of the appropriate notification system.

In addition, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has established the format, type size, and manner of the disclosure required by Section 615(d), with which users must comply. The relevant regulation is 12 CFR 1022.54.

## **VIII. OBLIGATIONS OF RESELLERS**

### **A. Disclosure and Certification Requirements**

Section 607(e) requires any person who obtains a consumer report for resale to take the following steps:

1. Disclose the identity of the end-user to the source CRA.
  - Identify to the source CRA each permissible purpose for which the report will be furnished to the end-user.
  - Establish and follow reasonable procedures to ensure that reports are resold only for permissible purposes, including procedures to obtain:
    - (1) the identity of all end-users;
    - (2) certifications from all users of each purpose for which reports will be used; and
    - (3) certifications that reports will not be used for any purpose other than the purpose(s) specified to the reseller. Resellers must make reasonable efforts to verify this information before selling the report.

### **B. Reinvestigations by Resellers**

Under Section 611(f), if a consumer disputes the accuracy or completeness of information in a report prepared by a reseller, the reseller must determine whether this is a result of an action or omission on its part and, if so, correct or delete the information. If not, the reseller must send the dispute to the source CRA for reinvestigation. When any CRA notifies the reseller of the results of an investigation, the reseller must immediately convey the information to the consumer.

### **C. Fraud Alerts and Resellers**

Section 605A(f) requires resellers who receive fraud alerts or active duty alerts from another consumer reporting agency to include these in their reports.

## **IX. LIABILITY FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE FCRA**

Failure to comply with the FCRA can result in state government or federal government enforcement actions, as well as private lawsuits. Sections 616, 617, and 621. In addition, any person who knowingly and willfully obtains a consumer report under false pretenses may face criminal prosecution. Section 619.

**The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's website, [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore), has more information about the FCRA, including publications for businesses and the full text of the FCRA.**

**Citations for FCRA sections in the U.S. Code, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.:**

Section 602	15 U.S.C. 1681
Section 603	15 U.S.C. 1681a
Section 604	15 U.S.C. 1681b
Section 605	15 U.S.C. 1681c
Section 605A	15 U.S.C. 1681cA
Section 605B	15 U.S.C. 1681cB
Section 606	15 U.S.C. 1681d
Section 607	15 U.S.C. 1681e
Section 608	15 U.S.C. 1681f

Section 609	15 U.S.C. 1681g
Section 610	15 U.S.C. 1681h
Section 611	15 U.S.C. 1681i
Section 612	15 U.S.C. 1681j
Section 613	15 U.S.C. 1681k
Section 614	15 U.S.C. 1681l
Section 615	15 U.S.C. 1681m
Section 616	15 U.S.C. 1681n
Section 617	15 U.S.C. 1681o
Section 618	15 U.S.C. 1681p
Section 619	15 U.S.C. 1681q
Section 620	15 U.S.C. 1681r
Section 621	15 U.S.C. 1681s
Section 622	15 U.S.C. 1681s-1
Section 623	15 U.S.C. 1681s-2
Section 624	15 U.S.C. 1681t
Section 625	15 U.S.C. 1681u
Section 626	15 U.S.C. 1681v
Section 627	15 U.S.C. 1681w
Section 628	15 U.S.C. 1681x
Section 629	15 U.S.C. 1681y

Para informacion en espanol, visite [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore) o escribe a la Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

### **A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act**

The federal Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) promotes the accuracy, fairness, and privacy of information in the files of consumer reporting agencies. There are many types of consumer reporting agencies, including credit bureaus and specialty agencies (such as agencies that sell information about check writing histories, medical records, and rental history records). Here is a summary of your major rights under the FCRA. **For more information, including information about additional rights, go to [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore) or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.**

- **You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.** Anyone who uses a credit report or another type of consumer report to deny your application for credit, insurance, or employment – or to take another adverse action against you – must tell you, and must give you the name, address, and phone number of the agency that provided the information.
- **You have the right to know what is in your file.** You may request and obtain all the information about you in the files of a consumer reporting agency (your “file disclosure”). You will be required to provide proper identification, which may include your Social Security number. In many cases, the disclosure will be free. You are entitled to a free file disclosure if:
  - a person has taken adverse action against you because of information in your credit report;
  - you are the victim of identity theft and place a fraud alert in your file;
  - your file contains inaccurate information as a result of fraud;
  - you are on public assistance;
  - you are unemployed but expect to apply for employment within 60 days.

In addition, all consumers are entitled to one free disclosure every 12 months upon request from each nationwide credit bureau and from nationwide specialty consumer reporting agencies. See [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore) for additional information.

- **You have the right to ask for a credit score.** Credit scores are numerical summaries of your credit-worthiness based on information from credit bureaus. You may request a credit score from consumer reporting agencies that create scores or distribute scores used in residential real property loans, but you will have to pay for it. In some mortgage transactions, you will receive credit score information for free from the mortgage lender.
- **You have the right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.** If you identify information in your file that is incomplete or inaccurate, and report it to the consumer reporting agency, the agency must investigate unless your dispute is frivolous. See [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore) for an explanation of dispute procedures.
- **Consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information.** Inaccurate, incomplete or unverifiable information must be removed or corrected, usually within 30 days. However, a consumer reporting agency may continue to report information it has verified as accurate.
- **Consumer reporting agencies may not report outdated negative information.** In most cases, a consumer reporting agency may not report negative information that is more than seven years old, or bankruptcies that are more than 10 years old.
- **Access to your file is limited.** A consumer reporting agency may provide information about you only to people with a valid need -- usually to consider an application with a creditor, insurer, employer, landlord, or other business. The FCRA specifies those with a valid need for access.
- **You must give your consent for reports to be provided to employers.** A consumer reporting agency may not give out information about you to your employer, or a potential employer, without your written consent given to the employer. Written consent generally is not required in the trucking industry. For more information, go to [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore).
- **You may limit “prescreened” offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.** Unsolicited “prescreened” offers for credit and insurance must include a toll-free phone number you can call if you choose to remove your name and address from the lists these offers are based

on. You may opt-out with the nationwide credit bureaus at 1-888-5-OPTOUT (1-888-567-8688).

- **You may seek damages from violators.** If a consumer reporting agency, or, in some cases, a user of consumer reports or a furnisher of information to a consumer reporting agency violates the FCRA, you may be able to sue in state or federal court.
- **Identity theft victims and active duty military personnel have additional rights.** For more information, visit [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore).

**States may enforce the FCRA, and many states have their own consumer reporting laws. In some cases, you may have more rights under state law. For more information, contact your state or local consumer protection agency or your state Attorney General. For information about your federal rights, contact:**

TYPE OF BUSINESS:	CONTACT:
<p>1.a. Banks, savings associations, and credit unions with total assets of over \$10 billion and their affiliates.</p> <p>b. Such affiliates that are not banks, savings associations, or credit unions also should list, in addition to the CFPB:</p>	<p>a. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street NW Washington, DC 20552</p> <p>b. Federal Trade Commission: Consumer Response Center – FCRA, Washington, DC 20580, (877) 382-4357</p>
<p>2. To the extent not included in item 1 above:</p> <p>a. National banks, federal savings associations, and federal branches and federal agencies of foreign banks</p> <p>b. State member banks, branches and agencies of foreign banks (other than federal branches, federal agencies, and Insured State Branches of Foreign Banks), commercial lending companies owned or controlled by foreign banks, and organizations operating under section 25 or 25A of the Federal Reserve Act</p> <p>c. Nonmember Insured Banks, Insured State Branches of Foreign Banks, and insured state savings associations</p> <p>d. Federal Credit Unions</p>	<p>a. Office of the Comptroller of the Currency - Customer Assistance Group, 1301 McKinney Street, Suite 3450 Houston, TX 77010-9050</p> <p>b. Federal Reserve Consumer Help Center, P.O. Box 1200, Minneapolis, MN 55480</p> <p>c. FDIC Consumer Response Center, 1100 Walnut Street, Box #11, Kansas City, MO 64106</p> <p>d. National Credit Union Administration - Office of Consumer Protection (OCP), Division of Consumer Compliance and Outreach (DCCO), 1775 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314</p>
<p>3. Air carriers</p>	<p>Asst. General Counsel for Aviation Enforcement &amp; Proceedings, Department of Transportation 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Washington, DC 20590</p>
<p>4. Creditors Subject to Surface Transportation Board</p>	<p>Office of Proceedings, Surface Transportation Board, Department of Transportation, 395 E Street, S.W., Washington, DC 20423</p>
<p>5. Creditors Subject to Packers and Stockyards Act 1921</p>	<p>Nearest Packers and Stockyards Administration area supervisor</p>
<p>6. Small Business Investment Companies</p>	<p>Associate Deputy Administrator for Capital Access, United States Small Business Administration, 409 Third Street, SW, 8th Floor, Washington, DC 20416</p>
<p>7. Brokers and Dealers</p>	<p>Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F St N.E., Washington, DC 20549</p>
<p>8. Federal Land Banks, Federal Land Bank Associations, Federal Intermediate Credit Banks, and Production Credit Associations</p>	<p>Farm Credit Administration, 1501 Farm Credit Drive, McLean, VA 22102-5090</p>
<p>9. Retailers, Finance Companies, and All Other Creditors Not Listed Above</p>	<p>FTC Regional Office for region in which the creditor operates or Federal Trade Commission: Consumer Response Center – FCRA, Washington, DC 20580, (877) 382-4357</p>



## Remedying the Effects of Identity Theft

You are receiving this information because you have been notified a consumer reporting company that you believe that you are a victim of identity theft. Identity theft occurs when someone uses your name, Social Security number, date of birth, or other identifying information, without authority, to commit fraud. For example, someone may have committed identity theft by using your personal information to open a credit card account or to get a loan in your name. For more information, visit [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore) or write to: Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, 1700 G Street N.W., Washington, DC 20552.

The Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA) gives you specific rights when you are, or believe that you are, the victim of identity theft. Here is a brief summary of the rights designed to help you recover from identity theft.

1. **You have the right to ask that nationwide consumer reporting companies place “fraud alerts” in your file to let potential creditors and others know that you may be a victim of identity theft.** A fraud alert can make it more difficult for someone to get credit in your name because it tells creditors to follow certain procedures to protect you. It also may delay your ability to obtain credit. You may place a fraud alert in your file by calling just one of the three nationwide consumer reporting agencies. As soon as the agency processes your fraud alert, it will notify the other two, which then also must place fraud alerts in your file.

- Equifax: 1-800-525-6285; [www.equifax.com](http://www.equifax.com)
- Experian: 1-888-397-3742; [www.experian.com](http://www.experian.com)
- TransUnion: 1-800-680-7289; [www.transunion.com](http://www.transunion.com)

An initial fraud alert stays in you file for at least 90 days. An extended alert stays in your file for seven years. To place either of these alerts, a consumer reporting agency will require you to provide appropriate proof of your **identity, which may include your Social Security number. If you ask for an extended alert, you will also have to** provide an identity theft report. An identity theft report includes a copy of a report you have files with a federal, state, or local law enforcement agency, and additional information a consumer reporting agency may require you to submit. For more detailed information about the identity theft report, visit [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore).

2. **You have the right to free copies of the information in your file (your “file disclosure”).** An initial fraud alert entitles you to a copy of all the information in your file at each of the three nationwide agencies, and an extended alert entitles you to two free file disclosures in a 12-month period following the placing of the alert. These additional disclosures may help you detect signs of fraud, for example, whether fraudulent accounts have been opened in your name or whether someone has reported a change in your address. Once a year, you also have the right to a free copy of the information in your file at any consumer reporting agency, if you believe it has inaccurate information due to fraud, such as identity theft. You also have the ability to obtain additional free file disclosures under other provisions of the FCRA. See [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore).
3. **You have the right to obtain documents relating to fraudulent transactions made or accounts opened using your personal information.** A creditor or other business must give you copies of applications and other business records relating to transactions and accounts that resulted from the theft of your identity, if you ask for them in writing. A business may ask you for proof of your identity, a police report, and an affidavit before giving you the documents. It also may specify an address for you to send your request. Under certain circumstances, a business can refuse to provide you with these documents. See [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore).
4. **You have the right to obtain information from a debt collector.** If you ask, a debt collector must provide you with certain information about the debt you believe was incurred in you name by an identity thief - like the name of the credit and the amount of the debt.

5. **If you believe information in your file results from identity theft, you have the right to ask that a consumer reporting agency block that information from your file.** An identity thief may run up bills in your name and not pay them. Information about the unpaid bills may appear on your consumer report. Should you decide to ask a consumer reporting agency to block the reporting of this information, you must identify the information to block, and provide the consumer reporting agency with proof of your identity and a copy of your identity theft report. The consumer reporting agency can refuse or cancel your request for a block if, for example, you don't provide the necessary documentation, or where the block results from an error or a material misrepresentation of fact made by you. If the agency declines or rescinds the block, it must notify you. Once a debt resulting from identity theft has been blocked, a person or business with notice of the block may not sell, transfer, or place the debt for collection.
  
6. **You also may prevent businesses from reporting information about you to consumer reporting agencies if you believe the information is a result of identity theft.** To do so, you must send your request to the address specified by the business that reports the information to the consumer reporting agency. The business will expect you to identify what information you do not want reported and to provide an identity theft report.

To learn more about identity theft and how to deal with its consequences, visit [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore), or write to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. You may have additional rights under state law. For more information, contact your local consumer protection agency or your state Attorney General.

In addition to the new rights and procedures to help consumers deal with the effects of identity theft, the FCRA has many other important consumer protections. They are described in more detail at [www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore](http://www.consumerfinance.gov/learnmore).

Please read the following disclaimer:

*“Barada Associates is committed to your success. An important part of your employment screening program involves compliance with various laws and regulations, which is why we are providing information regarding screening requirements in certain countries, region, etc. While we are happy to provide you with this information, it is your responsibility to comply with applicable laws and to understand how such information pertains to your employment screening program. The foregoing templates are not offered as legal advice but are instead offered for informational purposes only. Barada Associates is not a law firm and does not offer legal advice and this communication does not form an attorney client relationship. The provided templates are therefore not intended as a substitute for the legal advice of a lawyer knowledgeable of the user’s individual circumstances or to provide legal advice. Barada Associates makes no assurances regarding the accuracy, completeness, compliance or utility of the information contained in the provided templates. Legislative, regulatory and case law developments regularly impact on general research and this area is evolving rapidly. Barada Associates expressly disclaim any warranties or responsibility or damages associated with or arising out of the provided templates and the information contained therein. “*

**PLEASE NOTE: This Disclosure and Authorization form may update without any notice per changes of the FCRA.**

# EMPLOYER DISCLOSURE AND APPLICANT AUTHORIZATION

\_\_\_\_\_ (“Company”) hereby discloses to you that a consumer report, as defined by the Fair Credit Reporting Act, may be obtained for employment purposes by it, its affiliates, representatives, or agents. The undersigned hereby authorizes the procurement of the consumer report.

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

SAMPLE

Do not staple or otherwise attach this to the Disclosure and Authorization Form.

This is a separate document.

## APPLICANT AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE OF INFORMATION

I have authorized \_\_\_\_\_ to obtain a consumer report and/or investigative consumer report about me, for employment-related purposes, at any time to the extent allowed by law.

**I authorize all corporations, employers, co-workers, references, credit reporting agencies, educational institutions, licensing bodies, courts, law enforcement agencies, governmental agencies or departments, and military services to provide information about my background, including but not limited to driving records, court records, workers compensation records, credit report, academic records, professional license record, and employment-related information or records.**

I understand that an investigative consumer report is a special type of consumer report that is obtained through interviews and may contain information about my character, general reputation, personal characteristics, and/or mode of living. Upon my written request within a reasonable period of time, a complete disclosure of the nature and scope of that investigation will be made to me in writing within five days of the date on which the request was received.

I agree that this *Applicant Release Regarding Consumer and Investigative Consumer Reports* will be valid, now and at all times in the future, in original, faxed, copied or electronic form.

Information from the consumer report will not be used in violation of any applicable federal, state, or local equal employment opportunity law or regulation.

I acknowledge that I have received a copy of the "*Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act.*"

I understand that my date of birth will be used solely for identification purposes and will not be taken into account in any employment decisions.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Full Middle \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_  
Suffix \_\_\_\_

Any other name(s) used  
\_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Position Applied For

---

Present Address

---

City/State/Zip/County

---

Telephone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address

---

Previous Cities/States/ZipCodes/Counties of Residence During Last 7 Years

---

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Driver's License # \_\_\_\_\_ State of Issuance

---

Applicant Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date

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**Minnesota and Oklahoma residents only:**

Please initial here only if you are requesting a copy of the consumer report prepared on you

\_\_\_\_\_.

**California Residents only:** By signing, you acknowledge receipt of the NOTICE REGARDING BACKGROUND INVESTIGATION PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA LAW. Please initial here if you would like to receive a copy of the consumer report prepared on you at no charge if one is obtained whenever you have a right to receive such a copy under California law. \_\_\_\_\_.

**New York residents only:** By signing, you acknowledge receipt of Article 23-A of the New York Correction Law.

**Texas residents only:** If you are denied employment, you will receive a copy of the consumer report and an explanation of the reason for denial, and the name and address of the consumer reporting agency that furnished the information.

Do not staple or otherwise attach this to the Disclosure and Authorization Form.  
This is a separate document.

## **CALIFORNIA BACKGROUND CHECK NOTICE**

\_\_\_\_\_ (“Company”) intends to obtain information about you for employment purposes from a consumer reporting agency. Thus, you can expect to be the subject of a background check, also known as a “investigative consumer reports” and “consumer credit reports” under California law, obtained for employment purposes. Such reports may include information about your character, general reputation, personal characteristics and mode of living. With respect to any investigative consumer report from an investigative consumer reporting agency (“ICRA”), the Company may investigate the information contained in your employment application and other background information about you, including but not limited to obtaining a criminal record report, verifying references, work history, your social security number, your educational achievements, licensure, and certifications, your driving record, and other information about you, and interviewing people who are knowledgeable about you. The results of this report may be used as a factor in making employment decisions. The source of any investigative consumer report (as that term is defined under California law) will be Barada Associates, Inc., 130 East Second St., Rushville, IN 46173, 800-616-5917, www.baradainc.com. The source of any credit report will be TransUnion / TransUnion Consumer Solutions, P.O. Box 2000, Chester, PA 19022-2000, 800-916-8800. The Company agrees to provide you with a copy of an investigative consumer report when required to do so under California law.

Under California Civil Code section 1786.22, you are entitled to find out from an ICRA what is in the ICRA’s file on you with proper identification, as follows:

- In person, by visual inspection of your file during normal business hours and on reasonable notice. You also may request a copy of the information in person. The ICRA may not charge you more than the actual copying costs for providing you with a copy of your file.
- A summary of all information contained in the ICRA’s file on you that is required to be provided by the California Civil Code will be provided to you via telephone, if you have made a written request, with proper identification, for telephone disclosure, and the toll charge, if any, for the telephone call is prepaid by or charged directly to you.
- By requesting a copy be sent to a specified addressee by certified mail. ICRAs complying with requests for certified mailings shall not be liable for disclosures to third parties caused by mishandling of mail after such mailings leave the ICRAs.

“Proper Identification” includes documents such as a valid driver’s license, social security account number, military identification card, and credit cards. Only if you cannot identify yourself with such information may the ICRA require additional information concerning your employment and personal or family history in order to verify your identity.

The ICRA will provide trained personnel to explain any information furnished to you and will provide a written explanation of any coded information contained in files maintained on you. This written explanation will be provided whenever a file is provided to you for visual inspection.

You may be accompanied by one other person of your choosing, who must furnish reasonable identification. An ICRA may require you to furnish a written statement granting permission to the ICRA to discuss your file in such person’s presence.

**Do not staple or otherwise attach this to the Disclosure and Authorization Form.**

This is a separate document.

**NEW YORK STATE CORRECTION LAW  
ARTICLE 23-A, SECTION 753  
LICENSURE AND EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS  
PREVIOUSLY CONVICTED OF ONE OR MORE CRIMINAL OFFENSES**

§753. Factors to be considered concerning a previous criminal conviction; presumption.

1. In making a determination pursuant to section seven hundred fifty-two of this chapter, the public agency or private employer shall consider the following factors:

- (a) The public policy of this state, as expressed in this act, to encourage the licensure and employment of persons previously convicted of one or more criminal offenses.
- (b) The specific duties and responsibilities necessarily related to the license or employment sought or held by the person.
- (c) The bearing, if any, the criminal offense or offenses for which the person was previously convicted will have on his fitness or ability to perform one or more such duties or responsibilities.
- (d) The time which has elapsed since the occurrence of the criminal offense or offenses.
- (e) The age of the person at the time of occurrence of the criminal offense or offenses.
- (f) The seriousness of the offense or offenses.
- (g) Any information produced by the person, or produced on his behalf, in regard to his rehabilitation and good conduct.
- (h) The legitimate interest of the public agency or private employer in protecting property, and the safety and welfare of specific individuals or the general public.

2. In making a determination pursuant to section seven hundred fifty-two of this chapter, the public agency or private employer shall also give consideration to a certificate of relief from disabilities or a certificate of good conduct issued to the applicant, which certificate shall create a presumption of rehabilitation in regard to the offense or offenses specified therein.



COMPANY LOGO

SAMPLE – PRELIMINARY NOTICE OF ADVERSE ACTION

DATE

APPLICANT NAME  
APPLICANT ADDRESS  
APPLICANT CITY/STATE/ZIP

Dear (Applicant Name),

Pursuant to your authorization, we requested a consumer report regarding you in connection with your application for employment. We received the report and have reviewed it. The purpose of this letter is to advise you that there is information in the report that, in whole or in part, may result in our decision not to hire you.

Enclosed please find a copy of the above-referenced consumer report. Also enclosed is a copy of “A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act.”

The consumer report was used only for employment purposes and was received by us from a consumer reporting agency. The consumer reporting agency does not make decisions regarding offers of employment with our organization. However, you may contact them at the address listed below if you wish to dispute the accuracy or completeness of information contained in the report or for any other reason.

Barada Associates, Inc.  
130 East Second Street  
Rushville, IN 46173  
800.616.5917

Please be advised that if we decide not to hire you based, in whole or in part, on information contained in the report, we will send you another letter that will provide you with additional information so that you can, if you desire, pursue your rights with the above-referenced consumer reporting agency. We would anticipate sending that letter within five (5) business days if a no-hire decision is made.

Sincerely,

(Company Representative Name and Title)

COMPANY LOGO

SAMPLE – FINAL NOTICE OF ADVERSE ACTION

DATE

APPLICANT NAME  
APPLICANT ADDRESS  
APPLICANT CITY/STATE/ZIP

Dear (Applicant Name),

This letter is to notify you that our organization has decided not to employ you based, in whole or in part, on information contained in a consumer report that you authorized us to obtain.

You were previously provided with a copy of the consumer report that was provided to us, as well as “A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act.” If, for any reason, you did not receive these documents, please contact the undersigned immediately.

The consumer report was used only for employment purposes and was prepared for us by a consumer reporting agency. As you were advised in our previous letter, the consumer reporting agency did not make the employment decision and is unable to provide you with specific reasons as to why our decision was made. However, you may contact the consumer reporting agency at the address listed below if you wish to dispute the accuracy or completeness of any information contained in the report or request an additional copy of your report within 60 days of your receipt of this letter, or for any other reason.

Barada Associates, Inc.  
130 East Second Street  
Rushville, IN 46173  
800.616.5917

Sincerely,

(Company Representative Name and Title)