



ATTORNEY GENERAL GEORGE JEPSEN

ATTORNEY GENERAL JEPSEN SEEKS PROTECTION OF CONSUMERS IN UCONN CO-OP DATA BREACH

For Immediate Release

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HARTFORD – The breach of a database for online purchases from the UCONN Co-op “raises substantial concerns of financial fraud” and affected consumers should be provided with identify theft and other credit protections, Attorney General George Jepsen said Thursday.

“The situation calls into question the effectiveness of the Co-op’s measures to protect the confidentiality and security of private information received from its customers,” Jepsen said. “It is imperative that breaches of this sort do not reoccur and that affected individuals are provided sufficient protections to safeguard their information from misuse.”

The Office of the Attorney General learned about the data breach this week from a Co-op representative. In a letter to the legal counsel for the Co-op and its HuskyDirect.com website, Jepsen requested specific information about the number of consumers affected, the personal information lost, the steps taken to track down the hacker and the Co-op’s plan to prevent a similar breach from happening again.

Jepsen asked the information be provided to his office by Jan. 20.

“Critical facts concerning this data breach remain unclear, including its cause, the steps taken to protect the affected individuals and whether new procedures have been adopted to prevent future breaches,” Jepsen said.

Jepsen said he also expected the Co-op to provide identity theft and credit protections to affected consumers at no charge.

“In this era of increasing reliance on technology, it is vitally important that all entities entrusted with nonpublic personal information employ the highest levels of data security,” Jepsen said.

Assistant Attorney General Matthew Fitzsimmons is assisting in the investigation.

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