As you may already be aware, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) recently became aware of a cybersecurity incident affecting its systems and data that may have compromised the Personally Identifiable Information (PII) of current and former Federal employees. Data breaches can be confusing, even scary, and we hope this message, additional resources, and the notification process will help explain this incident.

As a result of an investigation to determine the impact of this cybersecurity incident to Federal personnel, OPM is notifying about four million federal civilians whose PII may have been compromised. This incident affects current and former Federal, including DoD, personnel. Only contractors who previously held Federal civilian positions were affected, and this incident did not affect military records.

All affected personnel are automatically enrolled identity theft insurance through CSID, a company that specializes in identity theft protection and fraud resolution. Additional credit monitoring services will be provided upon registration. To learn more about these services, please visit the OPM Website (www.opm.gov) and click on the homepage banner that says “Important Information about the Recent Cybersecurity Incident.”

OPM began sending out email notifications on Monday, June 8 via CSID through a generic email address (opmcio@csid.com). These initial emails instructed recipients to click on an embedded link to register for their credit monitoring services. Recognizing the inherent security concerns in this methodology, DoD, with OPM and CSID support, has suspended notifications to DoD until an improved, more secure notification and response process is in place. We are working closely with the White House, OPM, and other federal partners to establish notification procedures that will allow DoD personnel to reliably, confidently receive these notifications, and register for the full benefits to which they are entitled.

If you have received a notification via email from this email account and entered your PIN, you have registered for these credit monitoring services. If you disregarded that email or have not yet received it, don’t worry – you are automatically enrolled in the identity theft insurance, and you will receive notice via email or mail sometime soon.

Many of you have exercised cybersecurity best practices during the course of this notification process, and we thank you for your diligence. Moving forward, you will receive notice through this credit-monitoring registration process via email or mail sometime soon. If you would like to learn more about this incident or the services in which you may already be enrolled, please visit the OPM.gov Website.

We thank you for your patience, and we will keep the DoD workforce informed on notifications pertaining to this incident via email, the Defense.gov Website, and other methods.