

SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY

SBA Data Breach Compromises Business Owners' Data

A data breach in the Small Business Administration's online application portal may have compromised personal information for nearly 8,000 businesses seeking emergency loans last month, the agency said today.

In a letter to affected business owners, SBA said it discovered March 25 that the application system for Economic Injury Disaster Loans may have disclosed personal information to other applicants of the program — including Social Security numbers, income amounts, names, addresses and contact information.

In a statement a SBA spokesperson said the breach affected 7,900 applicants for the EIDL program, which is separate from the Payroll Protection Program loans. The spokesperson did not say how the breach occurred.

The SBA said it will offer applicants a year of free credit monitoring.

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