STATE OF WASHINGTON
CONSUMER CREDIT REPORTING ACT
SUMMARY OF CONSUMER RIGHTS

The State of Washington Fair Credit Reporting Act (WFCRA) 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 WFCRA. The WFCRA is modeled after the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act. The same rights are provided under the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act and you have received A Summary of Your Rights Under the Federal Fair Credit Reporting Act. You can get the complete text of WFCRA RCW 19.182, from the Washington Code Revisers Office, P.O. Box 40551, Olympia, WA, 98504, or online at http://apps.leg.wa. Gov/rcw/default.aspx?cite=19.182&full=true#19.182.070.

- **You must be told if information in your file has been used against you.** If a person takes an adverse action against you that is based, in whole or in part, on information contained in a consumer report, that person must tell you, and must give you the name, address, and telephone number of the consumer reporting agency that provided the information.

- **You have a 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, although medical information may be withheld and given directly to your medical provider. You will be required to provide proper identification, which may include your Social Security number. In many cases, the disclosure will be free. You will not be charged for:
  - a consumer report if a person has taken adverse action against you because of information in your credit report;
  - the reinvestigation of information you dispute; or
  - corrected reports resulting from the deletion of inaccurate or unverifiable information.

In addition, you are entitled to one free consumer report every 12 months, upon request. You may be charged a limited fee for a second or subsequent report requested by you during a 12 month period.

- **You have a right to dispute incomplete or inaccurate information.** If you identify information in your file that is incomplete or inaccurate, and you notify the consumer reporting agency directly of the dispute, the consumer reporting agency will reinvestigate without charge and record the current status of the disputed information before the end of thirty business days, unless your dispute is frivolous.

- **Consumer reporting agencies must correct or delete inaccurate, incomplete, or unverifiable information.** Upon completion of the reinvestigation, if the information you disputed is found to be inaccurate or cannot be verified, the consumer reporting agency will delete the information and notify you of the correction. If the reinvestigation does not resolve your dispute, you may file with the consumer reporting agency a brief statement setting forth the nature of your dispute. The statement will be placed in your consumer file and in any subsequent report containing the information you disputed.

- **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 ten 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 WFCRA specifies those with a valid need for access.

- **You must be notified if reports are provided to employers.** A consumer reporting agency may not give out information about you to employers without your knowledge. A potential employer must make a clear and

conspicuous disclosure in writing to you or obtain your consent before obtaining a report. A current employer may not receive a report unless it has given you written notice that consumer reports may be used for employment purposes.

- **You may limit "prescreened" offers of credit and insurance you get based on information in your credit report.** You may elect not to receive unsolicited "prescreened" offers for credit and insurance by using the consumer reporting agency's notification system 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 place a security freeze on your credit report. A security freeze prevents your credit file from being shared with potential creditors or insurance companies. You may request a security freeze by contacting us at A security freeze can be requested in writing by first-class mail, by telephone, or electronically. You also may request a freeze by calling the following toll-free telephone number(s): TransUnion: 888-909-8872, Experian: 888-397-3742, Equifax: 800-685-1111 (NY residents please call 1-800-349-9960). TransUnion, Experian and Equifax can also be reached at the following addresses:

TransUnion LLC
P.O. Box 2000
Chester, PA 19016
https://freeze.transunion.com

Experian Security Freeze
P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013
www.experian.com/freeze

Equifax Security Freeze
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348
https://www.freeze.equifax.com

- **You may be able to block information resulting from identity theft from appearing on your credit report.** If you are a victim of identity theft, a consumer reporting agency must permanently block misinformation resulting from that theft from appearing on your credit report. You must provide the consumer reporting agency with a copy of a police report as evidence of your claim before it can place the block on your report.

- **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 WFCRA, you may be able to sue in state or federal court.

COMPLAINTS

Any complaints by consumers under state law may be directed to:
Office of the Attorney General
Consumer Protection Division
800 5th Avenue, Suite 2000
Seattle, Washington 98104-3188
Phone 1-800-551-4636 or (206) 464-6684
Fax (206) 389-2801

Statewide Toll-Free TDD: **800 276-9883**
Complaints May Be Made Via U.S. Mail or E-Mail
Complaints: http://www.atg.wa.gov/FileAComplaint.aspx
(Include your U.S. Mail address with any complaint.)
Website & Forms: http://www.atg.wa.gov/