

If you were sent notice that your information may have been affected in the July 2024 Security Incident involving Johnson & Wales University, then you may be entitled to Benefits from a Settlement.

A Court authorized this Notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

- A \$454,200 settlement has been reached in a class action lawsuit against Johnson & Wales University, (“Defendant”) related to a Security Incident involving the unauthorized access of Defendant’s network by a third-party criminal actor in July 2024, in which Settlement Class Members’ information may have been impacted.
- If you are a member of the Settlement Class and received notice of the settlement, then you can submit a Claim Form for the following Settlement Class Member Benefits:

Cash Payment A – Documented Losses: You may submit a Claim Form and provide reasonable documentation for losses related to the Security Incident for up to \$1,000 per Settlement Class Member;

OR

Cash Payment B – Alternate Cash Payment: Instead of Cash Payment A, without providing documentation, you may submit a Claim Form to receive a flat cash payment in the estimated amount of \$50, subject to a *pro rata* increase or decrease depending upon the total value of all Valid Claims;

AND

Credit Monitoring: In addition to Cash Payment A or Cash Payment B, you may also submit a Claim Form to receive up to three years of free Credit Monitoring.

Your Cash Payment may be subject to a *pro rata* (a legal term meaning equal share) increase or decrease depending upon the total value of all Valid Claims.

This Notice may affect your rights. Please read it carefully.

Your Legal Rights & Options		Deadline
Submit a Claim Form	The only way to get Settlement Class Member Benefits is to submit a timely and valid Claim Form.	Submitted or Postmarked by: April 6, 2026
Opt Out	Get no Settlement Class Member Benefits. Keep your right to file your own lawsuit against the Released Parties about the Released Claims that are released by the Settlement in this lawsuit.	Postmarked by: April 6, 2026
Object to the Settlement	Stay in the Settlement but tell the Court why you do not agree with the Settlement. You will still be bound by the Settlement if the Court approves it.	Filed by: April 6, 2026
Do Nothing	Get no Settlement Class Member Benefits. Give up your legal rights.	

- These rights and options—**and the deadlines to exercise them**—are explained in this Notice.
- The Court must decide whether to approve the Settlement, attorneys’ fees, costs, and Service Awards. No Settlement Class Member Benefits will be provided unless the Court approves the Settlement.

Questions? Go to www.JWUSecurityIncident.com or call 1-877-745-7766

BASIC INFORMATION

1. Why is this Notice being provided?

A court authorized this Notice because you have the right to know about the Settlement of this class action lawsuit and about all of your rights and options before the Court decides whether to grant final approval to the Settlement. This Notice explains the lawsuit, the Settlement, your legal rights, what Settlement Class Member Benefits are available, who is eligible for the Settlement Class Member Benefits, and how to get them.

The Honorable John J. McConnell, Jr. of the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island is overseeing this class action. The lawsuit is known *Springer v. Johnson & Wales University*, Case No. 1:24-cv-399 (“lawsuit”). The individuals who filed this lawsuit are called the “Plaintiffs” and/or “Class Representatives” and the company sued, Johnson & Wales University, is called the “Defendant.”

2. What is this lawsuit about?

The Plaintiffs filed this lawsuit against the Defendant on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated related to a Security Incident involving the unauthorized access of Defendant’s network by a third-party criminal actor in July 2024, in which Settlement Class Members’ information may have been affected.

Defendant denies the legal claims and denies any wrongdoing or liability.

The Court has not made any determination of any wrongdoing by Defendant, or that any law has been violated. Instead, the Plaintiffs and Defendant have agreed to a settlement to avoid the risk, cost, and time of continuing the lawsuit.

3. Why is there a Settlement?

Plaintiffs and Defendant do not agree about the merits of the legal claims made in this lawsuit. The lawsuit has not gone to trial, and the Court has not decided in favor of the Plaintiffs or Defendant. Instead, the Plaintiffs and Defendant have agreed to settle the lawsuit to avoid the time, expense, and uncertainty of continuing with the lawsuit.

4. Why is this lawsuit a class action?

In a class action, one or more people (called “class representatives”) sue on behalf of all people who have similar legal claims. Together, all these people are called a class or class members. One court then resolves the issues for all class members, except for those class members who timely exclude themselves (“opt-out”) from the class.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE SETTLEMENT?

5. How do I know if I am included in the Settlement?

You are included in the Settlement Class if you are a living individual residing in the United States who was sent a notice by Defendant of the Security Incident.

Questions? Go to www.JWUSecurityIncident.com or call 1-877-745-7766

6. Are there exceptions to being included in the Settlement?

Yes. Excluded from the Settlement Class are: (a) Defendant and Defendant's parents, subsidiaries, affiliates officers, and directors, and any entity in which Defendant has a controlling interest; and (b) all judges assigned to hear any aspect of this litigation, as well as their immediate family members.

7. What if I am still not sure whether I am part of the Settlement?

If you are still not sure whether you are a Settlement Class Member, you may go to www.JWUSecurityIncident.com or call toll-free 1-877-745-7766.

THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS

8. What does this Settlement provide?

If you are a Settlement Class Member, you can submit a Claim Form for the following Settlement Class Member Benefits:

Cash Payment A – Documented Losses

You may submit a Claim Form along with reasonable supporting documentation for losses related to the Security Incident for up to \$1,000 per Settlement Class Member if: (i) the claimed losses are actual, documented, and have not been reimbursed; (ii) you contend that the loss was more likely than not caused by the Security Incident; (iii) the loss was incurred after the July 2024 date of the Security Incident; and (iv) you made reasonable but unsuccessful efforts to avoid, or seek reimbursement for, the loss.

Examples of reasonable documentation includes (but is not limited to): unreimbursed losses relating to fraud or identity theft; costs associated with freezing or unfreezing credit with any credit reporting agency; and miscellaneous expenses such as notary, fax, postage, copying, and mileage.

You will not be reimbursed for expenses if you have been reimbursed for the same expenses by another source, including compensation provided in connection with the credit monitoring services and identity theft protection product offered as part of the notification letter provided by Defendant or otherwise.

If you do not submit reasonable documentation supporting a loss, or if your Claim Form is invalid as determined by the Settlement Administrator, and you do not cure your Claim Form, your Claim Form will be denied.

Cash Payment B – Alternate Cash Payment

Instead of selecting Cash Payment A, without providing documentation, you may submit a Claim Form to receive a flat cash payment in the estimated amount of \$50.

Your Cash Payment may be subject to a *pro rata* (a legal term meaning equal share) increase if the amount of Valid Claims does not use the entire net Settlement Fund. Alternatively, if the amount of Valid Claims exceeds the amount of the net Settlement Fund, your Cash Payment may be subject to a *pro rata* reduction.

For purposes of calculating the *pro rata* increase or decrease, the Settlement Administrator must distribute the funds in the net Settlement Fund first for payment of Credit Monitoring and then for Cash Payments. Any *pro rata* increases or decreases to Cash Payments will be on an equal percentage basis.

Questions? Go to www.JWUSecurityIncident.com or call 1-877-745-7766

Credit Monitoring

In addition to Cash Payment A – Documented Losses or Cash Payment B – Alternate Cash Payment, you may also submit a Claim Form to receive up to three years of free Credit Monitoring.

9. What am I giving up to receive Settlement Class Member Benefits or stay in the Settlement Class?

Unless you exclude yourself (opt-out), you will remain in the Settlement Class. If the Settlement is approved and becomes final, all Court orders and any judgments will apply to you and legally bind you. You will not be able to sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against the Released Parties about the Released Claims in this lawsuit. The specific rights you are giving up are called “Released Claims.”

10. What are the Released Claims?

The Settlement Agreement describes the Releases, Released Claims, and Released Parties, in necessary legal terminology, so please read it carefully. The Settlement Agreement is available at www.JWUSecurityIncident.com. For questions regarding the Releases, Released Claims, or Released Parties and what the language in the Settlement Agreement means, you can also contact Settlement Class Counsel listed below for free, or you can talk to your own lawyer at your own expense.

HOW TO GET BENEFITS FROM THE SETTLEMENT

11. How do I submit a Claim Form?

You must submit a timely and valid Claim Form to receive any Settlement Class Member Benefits, as described above. Your Claim Form must be submitted online at www.JWUSecurityIncident.com by **April 6, 2026**, or mailed to the Settlement Administrator at the address on the Claim Form, **postmarked by April 6, 2026**. Claim Forms are also available at www.JWUSecurityIncident.com or by calling 1-877-745-7766 or by writing to:

Johnson & Wales University Security Incident
Settlement Administrator
PO Box 3578
Portland, OR 97208-3578

12. What happens if my contact information changes after I submit a Claim Form?

If you change your mailing address or email address after you submit a Claim Form, then it is your responsibility to inform the Settlement Administrator of your updated information. You may notify the Settlement Administrator of any changes by writing to:

Johnson & Wales University Security Incident
Settlement Administrator
PO Box 3578
Portland, OR 97208-3578

13. When will I receive my Settlement Class Member Benefits?

If you file a timely and valid Claim Form, then the Settlement Class Member Benefits will be provided if the Settlement is approved by the Court and then becomes final.

Questions? Go to www.JWUSecurityIncident.com or call 1-877-745-7766

It may take time for the Settlement to be approved and become final. Please be patient and check www.JWUSecurityIncident.com for updates.

EXCLUDE YOURSELF OR OPT-OUT OF THE SETTLEMENT

If you are a member of the Settlement Class and want to keep any right you may have to sue or continue to sue the Released Parties on your own about the legal claims in this lawsuit or the Released Claims, then you must take steps to get out of the Settlement. This is called excluding yourself from—or “opting-out” of—the Settlement.

14. How do I opt-out of the Settlement?

To exclude yourself from the Settlement, you must mail a written request for exclusion, which includes the following:

- 1) Your name, current address, telephone number, and email address (if any);
- 2) Your personal physical signature; and
- 3) A statement that you want to be excluded from the Settlement Class, such as “I hereby request to be excluded from the Settlement Class in the *Johnson & Wales Security Incident*.”

The exclusion request must be **mailed** to the Settlement Administrator at the following address, and be **postmarked** by **April 6, 2026**:

Johnson & Wales University Security Incident
Settlement Administrator
PO Box 3578
Portland, OR 97208-3578

You cannot opt-out (exclude yourself) by telephone or by email.

“Mass” or “class” requests for exclusion filed by third parties on behalf of a “mass” or “class” of Settlement Class Members or multiple Settlement Class Members will not be allowed.

15. If I opt-out can I still get anything from the Settlement?

No. If you opt-out, you will not be able to receive Settlement Class Member Benefits, and you will not be bound by the Settlement or any judgments in this lawsuit. You can only get Settlement Class Member Benefits if you stay in the Settlement and submit a timely and valid Claim Form.

16. If I do not opt-out, can I sue the Defendant for the same thing later?

No. Unless you opt-out, you give up any right to sue any of the Released Parties for the legal claims this Settlement resolves and Releases, and you will be bound by all the terms of the Settlement, proceedings, orders, and judgments in the lawsuit. You must opt-out of this lawsuit to start or continue your own lawsuit or be part of any other lawsuit against the Released Parties about the Released Claims in this Settlement. If you have a pending lawsuit, speak to your lawyer in that lawsuit immediately.

OBJECTING TO THE SETTLEMENT

17. How do I tell the Court I do not like the Settlement?

If you are a Settlement Class Member, you can tell the Court you do not agree with all or any part of the Settlement and/or Application for Attorneys’ Fees, Costs, and Service Awards.

Questions? Go to www.JWUSecurityIncident.com or call 1-877-745-7766

To object, you must file your timely written objection with the Court as provided below by **April 6, 2026**, and send by U.S. mail to Settlement Class Counsel, Defendant's Counsel, and the Settlement Administrator postmarked by or shipped by private courier (such as Federal Express) by **April 6, 2026**, stating you object to the Settlement in *Springer v. Johnson & Wales University*, Case No. 1:24-cv-399.

For an objection to be a valid objection under the Settlement, it must be in writing, submitted to the Court either by filing electronically or in person at any location of the United States District Court for the District of Rhode Island or by mailing to the Clerk, filed or postmarked by the Objection Deadline, and must include or substantially comply with the following: (a) the name of the proceeding; (b) the Settlement Class Member's full name, current mailing address, email address, telephone number, and personal signature; (c) a statement of the specific grounds for the objection, as well as any documents supporting the objection; (d) the identity of any attorneys representing the objector; (e) a statement regarding whether the Settlement Class Member (or his/her attorney) intends to appear at the Final Approval Hearing; (f) a list of all persons who will be called to testify at the Final Approval Hearing in support of the objection (if any); (g) a statement identifying all class action settlements objected to by the Settlement Class Member in the previous five (5) years; and (h) the signature of the Settlement Class Member or the Settlement Class Member's attorney. The Court, in its discretion, may authorize additional discovery of objectors.

Settlement Class Counsel and/or Defendant's Counsel may conduct limited discovery on any objector or objector's lawyer.

To object, you must file your timely written objection with the Court by **April 6, 2026**, and send it by U.S. mail to Settlement Class Counsel, Defendant's Counsel, and the Settlement Administrator postmarked by or shipped by private courier (such as Federal Express) by **April 6, 2026**, at the following addresses:

COURT	SETTLEMENT CLASS COUNSEL	DEFENDANT'S COUNSEL	SETTLEMENT ADMINISTRATOR
Clerk U.S. District Court District of Rhode Island 1 Exchange Ter. Providence, RI 02903	Leanna A. Loginov Shamis & Gentile, P.A. 14 NE 1 st Ave. Suite 705 Miami, FL 33132 Grayson Wells Stranch, Jennings & Garvey, PLLC 223 Rosa L. Parks Ave. Suite 200 Nashville, TN 37203 Leigh Montgomery EKSM, LLP 4200 Montrose St. Suite 200 Houston, TX 77006	Joseph A. Farside, Jr. Troutman Pepper Locke, LLP 2800 Financial Plz. Providence, RI 02903 Timothy St. George Troutman Pepper Locke, LLP 1001 Haxall Pt. 15 th Floor Richmond, VA 23219	Johnson & Wales University Security Incident Settlement Administrator PO Box 3578 Portland, OR 97208-3578

Questions? Go to www.JWUSecurityIncident.com or call 1-877-745-7766

18. What is the difference between objecting and asking to be excluded?

Objecting is simply telling the Court that you do not like something about the Settlement. You can object only if you stay in the Settlement Class. Opting-out is telling the Court that you do not want to be part of the Settlement Class. If you opt-out, you cannot object because you are no longer part of the Settlement.

THE LAWYERS REPRESENTING YOU

19. Do I have a lawyer in the lawsuit?

Yes. The Court has appointed Leanna A. Loginov of Shamis & Gentile, P.A., Grayson Wells of Stranch, Jennings & Garvey, PLLC, and Leigh Montgomery of EKSM, LLP as Settlement Class Counsel to represent you and the Settlement Class for the purposes of this Settlement. You may hire your own lawyer at your own cost if you want someone other than Settlement Class Counsel to represent you in this lawsuit.

20. How will Settlement Class Counsel be paid?

Settlement Class Counsel will file a motion asking the Court to award attorneys' fees up to 1/3 of the Settlement Fund, plus reimbursement of reasonable costs. Settlement Class Counsel will also ask the Court to approve the Service Awards for the Settlement Class Representatives of up to \$2,500 each for their efforts. If awarded by the Court, the attorneys' fees and costs, and Service Awards will be paid from the Settlement Fund. The Court may award less than these amounts.

THE FINAL APPROVAL HEARING

The Court will hold a "Final Approval Hearing" to decide whether to approve the Settlement and Application for Attorneys' Fees, Costs, and Service Awards. You may attend and you may ask to speak if you file an objection by the deadline, but you do not have to.

21. When and where will the Court decide whether to approve the Settlement?

The Court will hold a Final Approval Hearing on **May 13, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. ET** before the Honorable John J. McConnell, Jr. at the U.S. District Court District of Rhode Island, 1 Exchange Terrace, Providence, RI, 02903. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate and decide whether to approve the Settlement, Settlement Class Counsel's Application for Attorneys' Fees, Costs, and Service Awards.

If there are objections that were filed by the deadline, the Court will consider them. If you file a timely objection, and you (or your lawyer) ask to speak at the hearing, the Court, at its discretion, may hear objections at the hearing.

Note: The date and time of the Final Approval Hearing are subject to change without further notice to the Settlement Class. The Court may also decide to hold the hearing via video conference or by telephone. You should check the Settlement Website www.JWUSecurityIncident.com to confirm the date and time of the Final Approval Hearing have not changed.

Questions? Go to www.JWUSecurityIncident.com or call 1-877-745-7766

22. Do I have to attend the Final Approval Hearing?

No. Settlement Class Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have. However, you are welcome to attend at your own expense. If you file an objection, you do not have to attend the Final Approval Hearing to speak about it. As long as you file your written objection by the deadline, the Court will consider it.

23. May I speak at the Final Approval Hearing?

If there are objections that were filed by the deadline, the Court will consider them. If you file a timely objection, and you (or your lawyer) ask to speak at the hearing, the Court, at its discretion, may hear objections at the hearing.

GET MORE INFORMATION

24. How do I get more information about the Settlement?

This Notice summarizes the Settlement. Complete details about the Settlement are provided in the Settlement Agreement. The Settlement Agreement and other related documents are available at www.JWUSecurityIncident.com. You may get additional information at www.JWUSecurityIncident.com, by calling toll-free 1-877-745-7766, or by writing to:

Johnson & Wales University Security Incident
Settlement Administrator
PO Box 3578
Portland, OR 97208-3578

**PLEASE DO NOT TELEPHONE THE COURT, THE COURT'S CLERK OFFICE, OR
JOHNSON & WALES UNIVERSITY REGARDING THIS NOTICE.**

Questions? Go to www.JWUSecurityIncident.com or call 1-877-745-7766