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LexisNexis data breach prompts investigation, letters

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LexisNexis is notifying customers of a data breach and offering free credit monitoring.

The New York-based company — LexisNexis has more 300 employees in Albany, N.Y.— is part of an ongoing investigation into alleged credit card fraud, perpetrated by former customers of LexisNexis, according to a company statement.

The fraud occurred from June 2004 to October 2007.

LexisNexis spokesman David Kurt was not immediately available to comment.

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service released a statement that said 40,000 letters will be sent to consumers and 300 victims have been identified in an investigation concerning the breach.

A Postal Service official did not say when the investigation started, because it is ongoing and could hamper it.

LexisNexis is offering a full year of credit monitoring and “arranged for a specially trained support team” to help customers who receive notification letters.

The company was part of a similar incident in 2005 and sent letters then to 280,000 customers who may have been victims of identity theft.

LexisNexis U.S. is a unit of **Reed Elsevier** plc (NYSE: RUK), the Anglo-Dutch publishing conglomerate. The company is an online information services and publishing company with 13,000 people worldwide and 3,000 in the Dayton area.