

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CLASS ACTION SETTLEMENT

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF NORTH DAKOTA
In re Brady Martz Data Security Litigation, No. 3:23-cv-00176

A court has authorized this notice. This is not a solicitation from a lawyer.

If You Were Subject to the Brady Martz Data Incident and Previously Were Sent a Notice Letter Notifying You of the Data Breach, You Could be Eligible for a Payment from a Class Action Settlement

- You may be eligible to receive a payment from a proposed \$850,000 class action settlement.
- The class action lawsuit concerns the November 2022 data breach of Brady Martz & Associates, P.C. (“Brady Martz” or “Defendant”) in which Plaintiffs allege an unauthorized third party gained access to certain Brady Martz files containing sensitive personal information of its customers, and some third party contractors. Brady Martz denies that it did anything wrong and disputes that it has any liability but has agreed to settle the lawsuit on a class-wide basis.
- To be eligible to make a claim, you must be a Class Member who was sent a notice letter of the Brady Martz Data Incident that occurred in November 2022.
- Eligible claimants under the Settlement Agreement will receive \$75 (subject to *pro rata* increase or reduction) and the actual amount of unreimbursed ordinary losses up to \$250, with supporting documentation including up to \$100 of lost time without documentation or up to \$5,000 of extraordinary losses with adequate documentation to prove the monetary losses – whichever is greater.
- For more information or to submit a claim, visit www.BradyMartzDataSettlement.com or call 1-888-776-9026 Monday through Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Central Standard Time.
- **Please read this notice carefully. Your legal rights will be affected, and you have a choice to make at this time.**

Legal Rights	Summary	Deadline(s)
SUBMIT A CLAIM FORM	The only way to receive payment.	Submitted or Postmarked on or Before JUNE 24, 2025
EXCLUDE YOURSELF BY OPTING OUT OF THE CLASS	Receive no payment. This is the only option that allows you to keep your right to bring any other lawsuit against Defendant for the same claims.	Submitted or Postmarked on or Before MAY 25, 2025
OBJECT TO THE SETTLEMENT AND/OR ATTEND THE HEARING	You can write the Court about why you agree or disagree with the Settlement. The Court cannot order a different settlement. You can also ask to speak to the Court at the Final Approval Hearing on AUGUST 11, 2025 , about the fairness of the Settlement, with or without your own attorney.	Received on or Before MAY 25, 2025
DO NOTHING	Receive no payment. Give up rights if you are a Class Member.	

- Your rights and options as a Class Member – **and the deadlines to exercise your rights** – are explained in this notice.
- The Court will still have to decide whether to approve the Settlement. Payments to Class Members will be made if the Court approves the Settlement and after any possible appeals are resolved.

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CLASS NOTICE INFORMATION

1. Why did I get this Notice?

Defendant’s records indicate that you may have been part of a data breach of Brady Martz’s systems in November 2022 that may have exposed certain personal information of yours. If you qualify, you could be eligible to receive a payment as part of the Settlement.

For more information, go to: www.BradyMartzDataSettlement.com.

The person who has sued Brady Martz is called the Plaintiff(s). Brady Martz is the Defendant that has been sued in the class action lawsuit.

2. What is this Lawsuit about?

In November 2022, Brady Martz noticed unusual activity on its networks and retained an independent cybersecurity specialist to investigate. Plaintiffs allege an unauthorized third party accessed certain Brady Martz files containing customers, and some third-party contractors personal information. Upon receiving notice that their information was part of the data breach, Plaintiffs brought this lawsuit on behalf of themselves and all potential Class Members alleging claims of negligence to implement adequate data security safeguards, which allowed cybercriminals to access their personal information. Defendant denies that it acted negligently in protecting Plaintiffs’ personal information.

3. What is a Class Action?

In a class action lawsuit, one or more people called “Class Representatives” have sued on behalf of themselves and other people who have similar claims. These people and entities together are called a “Class” or “Class Members.” The company Plaintiffs sued on an individual basis and on behalf of all others similarly situated, Brady Martz & Associates, P.C., is called the Defendant. In a class action, one court resolves the issues for all Class Members, except for those who choose to exclude themselves.

4. Why is there a Settlement?

The Court did not decide in favor of Plaintiffs or Defendant. Instead, both parties agreed to a Settlement to resolve the claims. A class-wide settlement avoids the costs and risk of a trial, and Class Members can receive the available settlement compensation benefits. The Class Representatives and Class Counsel believe the Settlement is in the best interest of the Class.

WHO IS INCLUDED IN THE SETTLEMENT

5. Who is in the Settlement?

You have been identified through Brady Martz's records as a Class Member, and are included in the Settlement, if you were sent a data breach notice letter from Defendant indicating you may be part of the Brady Martz data breach. The Class is defined for settlement purposes as:

All individuals in the United States who were sent a notification letter regarding the Data Incident that Brady Martz discovered in November 2022.

Excluded from the Class are Brady Martz, the Judge assigned to the Action, and that Judge's immediate family and Court staff, and also Class Members who submit a valid Request for Exclusion prior to the Opt-Out Deadline.

6. What should I do if I am not sure whether I am included?

If you are not sure whether you are included in the Class, you can request free assistance by calling the Settlement Administrator or calling 1-888-776-9026 for more information.

THE SETTLEMENT BENEFITS

7. What does the Settlement provide?

The Defendant will pay \$850,000 into a Settlement Fund, which will be distributed to Class Members who submit valid claims, after deducting the named Plaintiffs' incentive award, class counsel's attorneys' fees and expenses, and notice and administration costs, if such award is approved by the Court.

The Settlement Fund will provide:

- **\$75** to each Class Member upon submission of a valid claim;**
** The \$75 cash payments may be increased or decreased *pro rata* from funds remaining in the Settlement Fund after all claims are submitted.
- **Up to \$250** for unreimbursed ordinary losses and supporting documentation;
 - o Including out-of-pocket expenses incurred as a result of the data breach, which must be fairly traceable to the November 2022 data breach and must not have been previously reimbursed by a third-party, along with supporting documentation or sworn attestation;
 - o Including up to 4 hours of lost time at \$25/hour spent mitigating the effects of the Brady Martz data breach with sworn attestation;
- **Up to \$5,000** in compensation to each valid claim for proven monetary loss;
 - o If the loss is an actual, documented, and unreimbursed monetary loss;
 - o The loss was more likely than not caused by the Brady Martz data breach;
 - o The loss occurred after November 19, 2022;
 - o The loss is not already covered by unreimbursed ordinary losses category;
 - o The Settlement Class Member made reasonable efforts to avoid, or seek reimbursement for, the loss, including but not limited to exhaustion of all available credit monitoring insurance and identity theft.

8. Who can get money from the Settlement, and how much?

To receive money from the Settlement, you must be a Class Member – meaning that you were sent a notice of the November 2022 Data Breach from Brady Martz. The determination of settlement funds available to each valid claimant is described in Question #7 above.

9. What am I giving up if I stay in the Class?

If you are a Class Member (*see* Question #5 above), unless you exclude yourself with an opt-out request (*see* Questions #16-18 below), you cannot sue, continue to sue, or be part of any other lawsuit against Defendant concerning the same issues as in this lawsuit. The “Release” section in the Settlement Agreement describes the legal claims that you are giving up if you remain in the settlement class. The Settlement Agreement can be viewed at www.BradyMartzDataSettlement.com.

HOW TO GET A PAYMENT – MAKING A CLAIM

10. How can I get a payment?

By submitting a valid claim form on or before the claim deadline of **JUNE 24, 2025**. If you were sent the November 2022 data breach notification letter, you can make a claim by filling out and submitting the claim form available at www.BradyMartzDataSettlement.com.

You can also contact the Settlement Administrator to request a paper claim form by telephone (1-888-776-9026), email (info@BradyMartzDataSettlement.com), or U.S. mail (Brady Martz Data Breach Settlement, c/o Settlement Administrator, PO Box 2009, Chanhassen, MN 55317-2009).

11. What is the deadline for submitting a claim form?

To be eligible for payment from the Settlement, your valid claim form **must be received or postmarked no later than JUNE 24, 2025**.

12. When will I get my payment?

The Court will hold a hearing on August 11, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. to decide whether to approve the Settlement. Payments will be made after the Settlement is approved and becomes final, meaning there is no appeal from the Court’s order approving the Settlement.

Updates regarding the Settlement will be posted on the Settlement website, www.BradyMartzDataSettlement.com.

THE ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING YOU

13. Do I have an attorney in the case?

Yes. The Court appointed the following attorneys to represent you and other Settlement Class Members as “Class Counsel.”

Nathan D. Prosser
HELLMUTH & JOHNSON, PLLC
8050 West 78th Street
Edina, MN 55439

David A. Goodwin
GUSTAFSON GLUEK, PLLC
120 South Sixth Street, Suite 2600
Minneapolis, MN 55402

For substantive questions about the settlement, you can obtain additional contact information for Messrs. Prosser and Goodwin at their respective law firm websites: hjlawfirm.com and gustafsongluek.com. For All other questions, please contact the Settlement Administrator (*see* Question 26).

14. Should I get my own attorney?

You do not need to hire your own attorney. If you want your own attorney, you may hire one, but you will be responsible for any payment for that attorney's services. For example, you can ask your own attorney to appear in court for you if you want someone other than Class Counsel to speak on your behalf. You may also appear for yourself without an attorney.

15. How will the attorneys be paid?

Class Counsel have undertaken this case on a contingency-fee basis, meaning they have paid for all of the expenses in the case and have not been paid any money in relation to their work on this case. Accordingly, Class Counsel will ask the Court to award them attorneys' fees of up to 1/3 (\$283,333.33) of the Settlement Fund and reimbursement for costs and expenses not to exceed \$5,000 to be paid from the Settlement Fund. The Court will decide the amount of fees and costs and expenses to be paid. You will not have to separately pay any portion of these fees yourself. Class Counsel's request for attorneys' fees and costs will be filed by May 11, 2025, and will be available to view on the settlement website at www.BradyMartzDataSettlement.com.

EXCLUDING YOURSELF FROM THE SETTLEMENT

If you are a Class Member and you do not want to receive the benefits from the Settlement, and you want to keep your right, if any, to sue Defendant on your own about the legal issues at issue in this lawsuit, then you must take affirmative steps to get out of the Settlement. This is called excluding yourself from – or “Opting Out” of the Class.

16. How do I get Opt-Out of the Settlement?

A Class Member may request to be excluded from the Settlement in writing by a request postmarked, or submitted electronically through the Settlement Website, on or before the Objection/Exclusion deadline (60 days after the Notice Date) of **MAY 25, 2025**. The timely exclusion Opt-Out must include:

- Your name;
- Address; and
- Telephone number;
- Name and number of this case;
- A statement that he/she wishes to be excluded from the Settlement; and
- Signature.

A request to be excluded that is sent to an address other than that designated as the Settlement Administrator address (Question #26 below), or that is not postmarked within the time specified, shall be invalid and the person serving such a request shall be considered a member of the Settlement class and shall be bound by the terms of the Settlement.

17. If I am a Class Member and don't Opt-Out, can I sue the Defendant for the same thing later?

No. If you are a Class Member (*see* Question #5 above), unless you opt-out, you give up the right to sue Brady Martz for the claims resolved by the Settlement. So if you are a Class Member and you want to try to pursue your own lawsuit, you must opt out.

18. What happens if I Opt-Out?

If you opt-out of the Settlement, you will not have any rights as a member of the Class under the Settlement terms; you will not receive any payment as part of the Settlement; you will not be bound by any further orders or judgments in this case; and you will keep the right, if any, to sue on the claims alleged in this lawsuit at your own expense.

OBJECTING TO OR COMMENTING ON THE SETTLEMENT

19. How do I tell the Court if I don't agree with the Settlement terms?

If you are a Class Member and you do not Opt-Out of the Settlement, you can ask the Court to deny approval of the Settlement by filing an objection. You can't ask the Court to order a different settlement; the Court can only approve or deny this Settlement. If the Court denies settlement approval, no settlement payments will be sent out and the lawsuit will continue.

You will have up to and including 90 days following entry of the Preliminary Approval Order (60 days after the Notice Date) to object to the Settlement. You may also appear at the Fairness Hearing, either in person or through your own attorney. If you appear through your own attorney, you are responsible for paying that attorney. To object, you must file a document with Court indicating that you object to the proposed Settlement in *In re Brady Martz Data Security Litigation*, No. 3:23-cv-0176 (D.N.D). You must include copies of such papers you propose to submit at the Final Approval Hearing with the Clerk of the Court; and send copies of such papers via U.S. Mail or overnight delivery to both Class Counsel and Defendant's Counsel.

A copy of the objection must also be mailed to the Settlement Administrator at the address that the Settlement Administrator has established to receive requests for exclusion or objections, Claim Forms, and any other communication relating to the Settlement.

Any Class Member who intends to object to this Settlement must include in any such objection:

- Your full name, address, and current telephone number;
- Name and number of this case: *In re Brady Martz Data Security Litigation*, No. 3:23-cv-0176 (D.N.D);
- All grounds for the objection, with factual and legal support for the stated objection, and supporting material;
- Identification of any other objections you have filed, or have had filed on your behalf in any other class action case in the last four years; and
- Signature.

You must also include whether you intend to appear at the Final Approval Hearing, with or without counsel, and identify any witnesses you may call to testify at the Final Approval Hearing along with all exhibits you intend to introduce into evidence at the Final Approval Hearing.

20. What's the difference between objecting and opting out?

Objecting is telling the Court that you don't like something about the Settlement. You can object to the Settlement only if you are a Class Member and do not opt-out of the Settlement. Opting-out of the Settlement indicates to the Court that you do not want to be part of the Settlement. If you opt-out of the Settlement, you cannot object to it because it does not affect you. You cannot both opt-out of the Settlement and also object to the Settlement.

THE COURT'S FAIRNESS HEARING

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

The Court will hold a Fairness Hearing at 9:00 a.m. on August 11, 2025, at the federal courthouse located at: Quentin N Burdick, U.S. Courthouse, 655 1st Ave North, #130, Fargo, ND 58102. At this hearing, the Court will consider whether the Settlement is fair, reasonable, and adequate. If there are objections, the Court will consider them and listen to any arguments presented. The Court may also decide how much Class Counsel should receive in fees and expense reimbursements. After the hearing, the Court will decide whether to approve the Settlement.

The Court may reschedule the Fairness Hearing or change any of the deadlines described in this notice. The date of the Fairness Hearing may change without further notice to the Class Members. Be sure to check the website, www.BradyMartzDataSettlement.com, for news of any such changes.

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

No. Class Counsel will answer any questions the Court may have. You may attend at your own expense if you wish. If you send an objection, you do not have to come to the hearing to talk about it. As long as you mailed or filed your written objection on time, the Court will consider it. You may also pay your own lawyer to attend, but it is not necessary.

23. May I speak at the Final Approval Hearing?

You may ask the Court for permission to speak at the Final Approval Hearing. To do so, you must include a statement in your written objection (discussed above at Question #19) that you intend to appear at the hearing. Be sure to include your name, address, and signature as well.

You cannot speak at the hearing if you exclude yourself from the Class

IF I DO NOTHING

24. What happens if I do nothing?

If you do nothing and you are a Class Member, you will not receive any money from this Settlement, and you will not be able to sue Brady Martz for the conduct alleged in this lawsuit. If you do nothing and you are not a Class Member, the Settlement will not affect or release any individual claim you may have.

GETTING MORE INFORMATION

25. Are more details about the Settlement available?

Yes. This notice summarizes the proposed Settlement—more details are in the Settlement Agreement and other case documents. You can get a copy of these documents at www.BradyMartzDataSettlement.com, by accessing the docket in this case through the Court's Public Access to Court Electronic Records (PACER) system at <https://ecf.dcd.uscourts.gov/>, or by visiting the office of the Clerk of the Court for the United States District Court for the District of North Dakota, 655 1st Ave. North, #130, Fargo, ND 58102 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. CST, Monday through Friday, excluding federal Court holidays.

PLEASE DO NOT TELEPHONE THE COURT OR THE COURT CLERK'S OFFICE TO INQUIRE ABOUT THIS SETTLEMENT OR THE CLAIM PROCESS.

26. How do I get more information?

The settlement website www.BradyMartzDataSettlement.com has the claim form, answers to questions about the Settlement and other information, including important documents, to help you determine whether you are eligible for a payment. You can also write to or call the Settlement Administrator at:

Brady Martz Data Breach Settlement
Settlement Administrator
P.O. Box 2009
Chanhassen, MN 55317-2009
1-888-776-9026
info@BradyMartzDataSettlement.com