



## Important Metro 2<sup>®</sup> Guidance:

### Reporting Accounts for Consumers Affected by Natural Disasters

Due to the expected impact of recent massive flooding along the Gulf Coast and other natural disasters around the country, the [Consumer Data Industry Association \(CDIA\)](#) is re-issuing guidance to remind data furnishers how they can work with their customers relative to consumers' disaster-related financial problems. The Metro 2<sup>®</sup> announcement below is a reminder to all data furnishers that there is specific guidance available for furnishers who report information about (1) consumers affected by natural and declared disasters ([FAQ 58](#)), and (2) accounts in forbearance as a result of a natural or declared disaster, or for other reasons ([FAQ 45](#)). Please review this announcement and guidance closely. For additional questions about data reporting in the Metro 2<sup>®</sup> Format, please contact CDIA and the Metro 2<sup>®</sup> Task Force at [metro2info@cdiaonline.org](mailto:metro2info@cdiaonline.org); or contact your consumer reporting agency representatives directly.

### **Reporting Credit Account Information in the Metro 2<sup>®</sup> Format for Consumers Affected by Natural Disasters**

Consumer reporting agencies know that natural disasters occur across the United States from time-to-time. Institutions that furnish data to consumer reporting agencies in the Metro 2<sup>®</sup> Format are reminded that there is specific guidance in [FAQ 58](#) of the Credit Reporting Resource Guide<sup>®</sup> to assist with the reporting of account information for consumers affected by natural disasters.

You can find the [FAQ 58](#) and other relevant furnisher information on the [Metro 2<sup>®</sup> portion](#) of the CDIA website.

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### **Reporting Forbearance Information**

Forbearance is a period of time during repayment in which a borrower is permitted to temporarily postpone making regular monthly payments. The debt is not forgiven, but regular payments are suspended until a later time. As an example, forbearance may be granted if a borrower is experiencing temporary financial difficulty. The consumer may be making reduced payments, interest-only payments or no payments.

Institutions that furnish data to consumer reporting agencies in the Metro 2® Format are reminded that there is specific guidance in [FAQ 45](#) of the Credit Reporting Resource Guide® to assist with the reporting of accounts in forbearance as a result of a natural or declared disaster, or for other reasons.

You can find the [FAQ 45](#) and other relevant furnisher information on the [Metro 2® portion](#) of the CDIA website.

### **About the Consumer Data Industry Association**

The [Consumer Data Industry Association \(CDIA\)](#) is the voice of the consumer reporting industry, representing consumer reporting agencies including the nationwide credit bureaus, regional and specialized credit bureaus, background check and residential screening companies, and others. Founded in 1906, CDIA promotes the responsible use of consumer data to help consumers achieve their financial goals, and to help businesses, governments and volunteer organizations avoid fraud and manage risk. Through data and analytics, CDIA members empower economic opportunity all over the world, helping ensure fair and safe transactions for consumers, facilitating competition and expanding consumers' access to financial and other products suited to their unique needs.

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