



News Release

Timothy Jeffries, Director

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Food Stamp Program in Colorado City will not be suspended following this week's raid

PHOENIX – As a result of this week's successful raid in Colorado City regarding the indictments of multiple individuals suspected of committing food stamp fraud and money laundering, the USDA-OIG has been receiving a number of inquiries on whether the Department of Economic Security (DES) plans to suspend the payment of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits to individuals residing in that area.

In response to these concerns, Arizona DES Director Timothy Jeffries confirmed that the payment of benefits to eligible recipients will not be interrupted. "The Department of Economic Security will not suspend or interrupt in any way the administration of the food stamp program. There are nearly 4,000 Arizonans in the Colorado City area who depend on these benefits for their daily existence. Clearly, the sweep that occurred in Colorado City this week was a positive step in the battle against food stamp fraud. But eligible recipients should not have to suffer because of events that were beyond their control. They will continue to receive their benefits."

DES is responsible for the administration of the SNAP program. As such, should circumstances change regarding eligibility, appropriate determinations will be made. Otherwise, there have been no changes to the eligibility guidelines that govern the program.

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