



News Release

Timothy Jeffries, Director

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DES Office of the Inspector General Arrests DES Employee for Benefits Fraud

Second DES Employee Arrest Since Arrival of Director Jeffries

PHOENIX – DES Director Timothy Jeffries today announced the DES Office of the Inspector General arrested a DES employee on the suspicion she submitted falsified information in order to obtain federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits as administered by the Arizona Department of Economic Security.

“Stealing is against the law; stealing from the poor is especially reprehensible,” said Director Timothy Jeffries. “I have consistently stated DES will bring down the hammer of justice on anyone who steals precious human service dollars from Arizona children and families in need. *Our New DES* will not relent from protecting those we nobly serve, and the public trust we are privileged to uphold.”

“The Office of Inspector General is committed to maintaining the integrity of DES programs and services,” said Inspector General Juan J. Arcellana. “This includes the commitment of investigating and prosecuting fraud committed by DES employees.”

Ms. Cindy Carrillo, Program Compliance Auditor for the Division of Benefits and Medical Eligibility (DBME) Family Assistance Administration (FAA), is alleged to have submitted falsified expenditures for childcare in order to receive SNAP benefits. Ms. Carrillo provided documentation indicating that she was spending more money on childcare per month than she actually paid, and therefore, eligible to receive SNAP benefits.

Ms. Carrillo was interviewed by a DES OIG Detective, during which time incriminating statements were made. Ms. Carrillo was arrested by OIG Detectives in the local DES office in which she works, and transported to the Department of Public Safety for fingerprinting and photo verification.

The investigation into this matter is ongoing.

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