

UNITED COUNCIL ON WELFARE FRAUD

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The 2026 Farm Bill – A Missed Opportunity. Where’s the Beef? Message from UCOWF President Keith Miskie (NE)

The House Agriculture Committee released *The Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026*, hailing it as "providing certainty to our farmers, ranchers, and rural communities." Without question, America's farmers deserve our thanks and most importantly, our support. Yet, when roughly 70% of the draft Farm Bill funds the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, a.k.a. food stamps), taxpayers are justified in asking, "Where's the beef?"

What's missing? In the current Committee draft, there are simply no meaningful reforms for a food stamps program projected to cost more than \$1 trillion over the next decade.

The United Council on Welfare Fraud (UCOWF) is the only national nonprofit dedicated exclusively to combating waste, fraud, and abuse in social service programs. They represent state and local investigators who see firsthand how identity schemes, false applications, corrupt retailers, duplicate participation, and organized criminals exploit SNAP, robbing beneficiaries and taxpayers.

We strongly urge Chairman Thompson and his Committee to make changes to this legislation, otherwise this Bill will end up being a \$1 TRILLION missed opportunity.

What is needed? SNAP's administrative framework has remained largely unrevised and updated for decades - despite explosive growth. When UCOWF testified before the Committee in 2024, we provided specific, practical solutions to preserve SNAP, including:



Inside This Issue

The 2026 Farm Bill

Announcement on White Executive Order "Establishing the Task Force to Eliminate Fraud

UCOWF Membership Committee Initiatives

Intergovernmental Board Report

Celebrating a Major Milestone

2026 Conference – Pittsburgh

Presenter Application

Dorothy Forney Award Information

UCOWF Conference Sponsorships

Board of Directors

Pittsburg Pirates

UCOWF Increases

Social Media/UCOWF Page

Fraud in the News

Affiliates & Corporate Partners

UPCOMING EVENTS

Quarterly UCOWF Fraud Call

April 22, 2026

National Training Conference

September 1 - 3, 2026

The 2026 Farm Bill – A Missed Opportunity. Where's the Beef? - Continued

- Implement the National Accuracy Clearinghouse as directed six years ago to stop interstate dual enrollment.
- Modernize identity and eligibility verifications – especially ending the practice of self-attestation for benefit access.
- Restore stronger incentives for states to recover misspent dollars.
- Strengthen retailer screening, closing loopholes that invite bad actors – foreign and domestic.

These are not new or even partisan ideas. Most were included in the House's 2024 Farm Bill framework. Yet, in this current version slated for a vote next week, nearly all these safeguards have disappeared. Given recent fraud headlines nationwide, it's almost like all of this has fallen on deaf ears.

American's trust is fragile, and taxpayers' patience with its elected officials wears thin. Polling shows 70% of voters believe welfare fraud is common nationwide, and a vast majority support cracking down to protect entitlement programs for those most vulnerable in our society.

The White House established the National Fraud Enforcement Division within the Department of Justice. Congressional hearings routinely focus on the need for greater stewardship of taxpayer funds, and DOGE has publicly committed to cracking down on all federal programs. And just last month, Minnesota Representative Kristin Robbins begged Congress to fix the loopholes laws allowing transnational fraudsters to exploit programs in her state.

This is the opportunity to go from flowery promises to meaningful change. The Committee's draft can and should be amended. The 2026 Farm Bill does not pull SNAP out of the 'honor system' on which it currently depends, nor does it address retailer trafficking. It doesn't even fix duplicate participation or confront known categorical eligibility loopholes. Absent these changes to our largest federal safety net program, Congressional 'reforms' will ring hollow. Beneficiaries will suffer, and criminals will continue to rob taxpayers.

SNAP is not a minor add-on to agriculture policy - it represents the majority of Farm Bill spending. Farmers and ranchers should not be held hostage to SNAP politics every 5 years. Its oversight should also not be diluted inside a subsidies bill.

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The 2026 Farm Bill – A Missed Opportunity. Where’s the Beef? - Continued

Our shared goal should be to foster SNAP’s adoption of 21st Century solutions to best serve beneficiaries of today and tomorrow. But, if the Committee’s interests lie elsewhere, Congress should consider aligning SNAP with the nation’s other entitlement programs, like Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security.

We urge Congress to partner with us and course correct before next week’s vote. Our proposed changes are modest, and as the state and local investigators who work in the field every day, we know what is needed to protect beneficiaries and taxpayers alike.

UCOWF Statement Commending the White House Executive Order “Establishing the Task Force to Eliminate Fraud” UCOWF President Keith Miskie (NE)

“UCOWF strongly supports President Trump’s leadership to protect and preserve our nation’s safety net programs for our society’s most vulnerable. With today’s announcement, we stand ready to work with the Administration to ensure no organization or individual perverts the will of law for their own personal benefit. Americans are generous people, but when we are losing upwards of \$1 trillion in benefits at the federal, state and local levels annually, we can no longer turn a blind eye when it risks the financial stability of those programs and limits the future opportunities of generations of Americans. Fighting fraud is our job day-in and day-out, and we wholeheartedly support President Trump’s efforts to rein in this plague.”

UCOWF Membership Committee is Introducing UCOWF – Connect and UCOWF – Reconnect Initiatives

The Membership Committee, co-chaired by Djwana Dixon and Megan Kiefer, is launching two strategic initiatives this year: **UCOWF-Connect** and **UCOWF-Reconnect**. Together, these efforts are designed to both expand our reach and strengthen our relationship with those who have been part of UCOWF in the past.

- **UCOWF-Connect** is a proactive recruitment effort. All board members, working alongside the Membership Committee, will participate in identifying prospective members and promoting the value of UCOWF across their networks and professional communities.
- **UCOWF-Reconnect** focuses on engaging former members. Individuals whose membership has lapsed receive a message within 30 days of expiration to determine whether the lapse was intentional or an oversight. Each outreach includes a brief survey to gather feedback on how UCOWF can improve and better support its members.

Together, these initiatives position UCOWF to grow thoughtfully—strengthening ties with past members while building new connections that support the organization’s long-term vitality.

SNAP is too large to be governed as an afterthought. Protecting the integrity of taxpayer dollars and ensuring benefits reach eligible families is simply not partisan. The last thing any of us wants is to look at the bill's trillion-dollar Nutrition Title and hear echoes of the famous question: "Where's the beef?!".

INTERGOVERNMENTAL BOARD REPORT

Empowering Our Voice in Washinton: Welcoming Dan Boston & Health Policy Source as UCOWF Lobbying Partners

In a pivotal move to amplify our advocacy efforts, UCOWF are thrilled to announce the selection and signing of Dan Boston and his esteemed firm, Health Policy Source, as our dedicated lobbyists. This strategic partnership comes at a critical juncture, as the current national climate places an unprecedented spotlight on fraud, waste, and abuse in public assistance programs. This heightened attention provides a unique opportunity for UCOWF to showcase our members' deep subject matter expertise, share real-world problems we've encountered, propose proven solutions, and highlight lessons learned from over five decades of dedicated work in combatting welfare fraud.

For years, our members have been on the front lines, addressing these very challenges day in and day out. Now, with policymakers and the public increasingly focused on the issues we've long championed, it's imperative that we lean into this moment. By doing so, we can play a key role in restoring effective stewardship, oversight, and accountability to the vital programs we all strive to safeguard - ensuring they serve those in need while protecting taxpayer resources. This collaboration with Dan Boston and Health Policy Source will equip us to navigate the complexities of federal policy, advocate for meaningful reforms, and elevate the voices of our community of experts. After interviewing Dan and receiving a scope of work, the Finance and Executive Board of Directors voted unanimously to contract with him for 2026.

We are confident this partnership will strengthen UCOWF's impact on advocacy, education, and collaboration with decision makers to foster long-term, productive relationships with federal stakeholders while elevating our name recognition. In addition, having Dan and Health Policy Source onboard, we further distance our members from anything resembling "lobbying" as outlined in our bylaws.



In the News

Follow UCOWF on LinkedIn and X where members share news, trends, success stories, and stay connected to legislative news!





INTERGOVERNMENTAL BOARD REPORT CONTINUED:



Summery Bio: Dan Boston

Dan Boston is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Health Policy Source, Inc., a Capitol Hill veteran with extensive experience in health policy and lobbying. He holds an undergraduate degree in Public Policy and Political Science, as well as a Master of Arts in Journalism, from Indiana University. Dan has extensive experience and far-reaching contacts within healthcare. His reputation on the Hill as the policy and regulatory expert amongst members of Congress, staff, and Committees provides UCOWF a unique opportunity to expand our viewpoints and experiences into the challenges with Medicaid beneficiary fraud due to legislative and regulatory gaps that currently exist.

Dan has held influential roles on the Hill and within HHS as a legislative analyst, policy advisor, communications director, committee policy teams, and has been recognized as one of Washington, DC's "Top Lobbyists" for 19 of the last 20 years. Dan resides in the DC area with his wife, two young adult children, and three cats.

Overview of Health Policy Source

Health Policy Source (HPS) is a boutique lobbying and consulting firm that specializes in federal healthcare and safety net programs. The firm delivers timely and weekly updates of issues impacting the industry, appropriations impacting the programs our members help administer and protect and offering our relevant subject matter expertise as appropriate.

The Intergovernmental Board will be leading coordination and communication with Dan and HPS, led by Dawn Royal and Andrew McClenahan. If you would like to learn more about Dan and his firm, please visit their website: <https://www.healthpolicysource.com/>

Intergovernmental Board Update:

- **CMS Meeting over Beneficiary Fraud:** 2026 started off with a bang with the partnership with Dan Boston and his team. They wasted no time and jumped into one of our longstanding issues: the December 5, 2024, Medicaid SMD #24-005 guidance letter, "*Protecting Medicaid Beneficiaries Against Impermissible Fraud and Abuse Sanctions.*" If you've missed past updates on this, here's a quick re-cap: During the "lame duck" transition between the Biden and Trump Administration, CMS issued a memo that specifically warned States that they could NOT pursue recoveries from beneficiaries, even in criminal cases. They extended this prohibition to include States recovering their own capitation rates and mandated that beneficiary fraud go to law enforcement and MFCU units.

UCOWF **strongly** feels that this memo was not only improper and shockingly out-of-touch with how States administer and oversee beneficiary applications and fraud, but that the guidance and threat to withhold FMAP funding from anyone going after beneficiary fraud





INTERGOVERNMENTAL BOARD REPORT CONTINUED:

was UNCONSTITUTIONAL. You can read our 1/5/26 letter on the UCOWF's Legislative Fact Sheets

webpage:

https://www.ucowf.net/assets/pdf/UCOWF+letter+to+House+Oversight+regarding+MN+Fraud+Hearing+and+CMS+Guidance+on+FWA_5Jan2026/

UCOWF had authored three letters and spoken to Congressional staffers over this issue with zero feedback, engagement, or response from CMS leadership, despite CMS officially rescinding the SMD #24-005 in May 2025. When CMS staff members told two national beneficiary Technical Advisory Group calls that the policies and guidance in the memos still stand (despite the rescission), confusion still remains. As we are aware of UCOWF members reporting that they still cannot recover or enforce fraudulent applications from Medicaid beneficiaries, a fourth letter was sent to House Oversight Chair Rep. James Comer, Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Chair Rand Paul, and White House Domestic Policy Council. That seemed to work...

With Dan Boston on board, he arranged a meeting with CMS Principal Deputy and Director for Medicaid and CHIP Dr. Caprice Knapp and CMS Deputy Administrator and COO Kim Brandt. In attendance from UCOWF were President Keith Miskie and Intergovernmental Board co-chairs Dawn Royal and Andrew McClenahan. What ensued was a productive conversation. CMS leadership came back with a clear understanding that UCOWF was the stakeholder to work with on the issue, and they requested we give them suggestions for updated Guidance to States, which we promptly provided. We look forward to this guidance and furthering our relationship with these key decision makers to improve program integrity.

- US Secret Service EBT Skimming Operation:** In 2025, the U.S. Secret Service stepped in to conduct unannounced inspections of SNAP authorized retailers looking for skimming devices and to educate store managers on how to spot skimmers. Last year, the USSS conducted 22 operations and removed 411 skimmers, preventing an estimated \$428.1 million in potential losses from EBT and ATM fraud. Despite freezing temperatures, the USSS continued these efforts in northern states in January and February.



UCOWF again had members assisting and providing SME input in this important initiative to identify and remove fraudulent devices before they can be used to steal benefits. It was encouraging to see senior partner agency leadership from Ohio Job and Family Services attend and visit stores. For the first time ever, the USDA Inspector General was in the field with USDA OIG Special Agents in support of this proactive, educational outreach mission.



INTERGOVERNMENTAL BOARD REPORT CONTINUED:



- **John Stossel TV:** UCOWF's Andy McClenahan was invited to interview with John Stossel on welfare fraud. You may remember Mr. Stossel for his "Give me a break!" investigative journalism pieces as an anchor for ABC's 20/20. Look for the episode scheduled for release on Feb 10th.

Celebrating a Major Milestone for Union County DDS (Elizabeth, NJ)

I'm elated to share that the Union County Division of Social Services, Elizabeth, NJ, has officially entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Union County Prosecutor's Office. Moving forward, all claims exceeding \$20,000 will be referred to their office for prosecution — a major step toward **strengthening accountability** and **safeguarding our programs**.

This achievement has been five years in the making, dating back to when I first stepped into this role as the Investigations Supervisor. Reaching this point is truly meaningful, both professionally and personally.

I also want to express my gratitude to UCOWF for providing the tools, resources, and community that helped make this possible. As a new Investigations Supervisor, I needed training materials for my staff — and UCOWF was the only place offering what we needed. I joined out of pocket, and even paid for a conference myself at one point, and it was worth every penny. The professionals I've met, the practices they've shared, and the support I've received have been invaluable.

I'm grateful for the experience, for my growing UCOWF family, for the **teams I'm honored to supervise**, and for the continued opportunities for growth this organization provides.

Hats off to UCOWF! ~ **Djwana Dixon (NJ)**

Social Media

UCOWF had an exciting end 2025 with the introduction to our X page. X provides UCOWF with another tool to help provide update information on what UCOWF is working on and to help inform people about what's happening within the world of welfare fraud. Also, don't forget to follow UCOWF on LinkedIn. Andy McClenahan and Ashley Wilkes do an amazing job at keeping both of our social media pages up to date with what's currently happening with UCOWF and the latest on welfare fraud. Links to both the X and LinkedIn pages are on the UCOWF website.



Executive Board

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David Krasnow (CO)

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Laura Lindsey (KS)



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UPCOMING CONFERENCE INFORMATION

53rd UCOWF National Training Conference

We're headed to Pittsburgh in 2026!

With such great support already received from our Pennsylvania members, we are so excited to be headed to Pittsburgh for our 53rd National Training Conference.



The Conference will be at the beautiful Omni William Penn Hotel from September 1 – 3, 2026. Our Conference committee is already hard at work scheduling some incredible presenters for this week of training. Similar to past years, attendees can look forward to hearing from our federal partners on updates to the programs. As well as a wide variety of topics, ranging from SNAP fraud, childcare fraud, EBT

Trafficking, and eye-opening case examples.

Registration is now open. Visit our site for more information on member and non-member registration rates, early-bird rates, and more!

www.ucowf.net/national-conference/



Presenter Application Form

Each year UCOWF relies on both inside and outside presenters with areas of expertise to be presenters at the Annual Conference. All bring expertise from research, resource awareness, and experiences that are valuable to others nationwide. If you have a specialty topic, you would like to share consider completing the UCOWF Presenter Application Google Form. If you don't have a google account, you can still complete it as a guest. All applications will be considered in order to avoid too much duplication on same topics and target all areas of participants. We will do our best to honor all application requests as slots allow. Specific questions regarding presenters can be sent to Terri Linehan, Co-chair UCOWFPresenters2026@gmail.com We look forward to seeing you in September!

[UCOWF Presenter Application of Interest](#)

Dorothy Forney Award Information

Each year UCOWF presents the **Dorothy Forney Memorial Award** at the annual training conference. The Dorothy Forney Memorial Award is the highest honor conferred on an individual or organization by UCOWF.

Dorothy Forney was one of the founders of UCOWF and served as Executive Director until her death in 1983. She was a nationally recognized authority on entitlement programs and served on President Reagan's transitional task force in the former U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Mrs. Forney was totally dedicated to UCOWF and its mission.

In her memory, the Dorothy Forney Memorial Award is given annually in recognition of outstanding contributions to the field of fraud control. It is given to individuals or organizations whose actions have had a significant impact on the prevention, detection, prosecution or elimination of fraud and abuse in benefit programs.

Nominations for an individual or organization for the Dorothy Forney Memorial Award are reviewed annually by the UCOWF Awards Committee and the UCOWF Board of Directors approves the nominees at its Mid-Year Board Meeting. All nominations are confidential, but the nominee selected by the UCOWF Awards Committee is notified of his or her selection.

UCOWF Conference Scholarship Information

Conference Sponsorships encourage, promote and assist members financially who wish to obtain further education and training to enhance their knowledge and skills as an investigator or as a supervisor by attending the Annual Training Conference.

UCOWF will waive the Conference Registration fee and pay up to \$500 each for up to ten individuals to attend the United Council on Welfare Fraud's Annual Training Conference - a \$5,000 value.

[Read the full list of Sponsorship Guidelines here.](#)

Board of Directors

Have you considered joining a team that helps spread awareness, prevention, and to advocate against welfare fraud? Every year UCOWF Board of Directors holds elections for new board members. Board of Directors are elected to 3-year terms or a 1-year "At-Large" position. The "At-Large" Board Members have the same voice and voting rights as a 3-year term member. Our at-large members can also serve as co-chairs for our various committees. We currently have two at-large board members who are currently serving as co-chairs. Board of Directors help enforce UCOWF Bi-laws, help plan our conferences, and help to spread awareness and prevention against welfare fraud. To apply for a Board of Directors position you must be a current member for the past twelve months. You don't have to attend the annual conference to be considered. If you are interested in being on the Board of Directors, you can email the UCOWF Business Manager Laura Lindsey. The Business Manager will then provide a letter of interest to the designated region prior to elections to be considered.

Take Me Out To The Ball Game! Pittsburgh Pirates Baseball Tickets

UCOWF Conference Ticket Offer

Kick off the UCOWF Conference while taking in the Pittsburgh Pirates vs. San Francisco Giants game on Tuesday, September 1st at 6:40pm. Purchase through this link for discounted Pirates Tickets and to receive complimentary \$5 Loaded Value on each ticket good for food, beverage, or merchandise on 9/1 only.

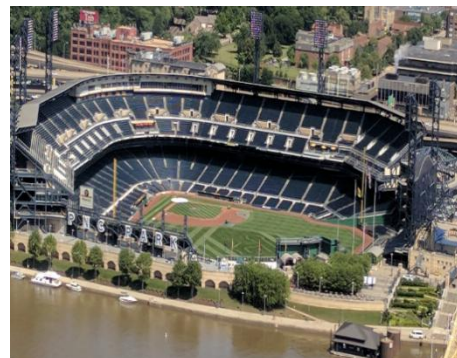
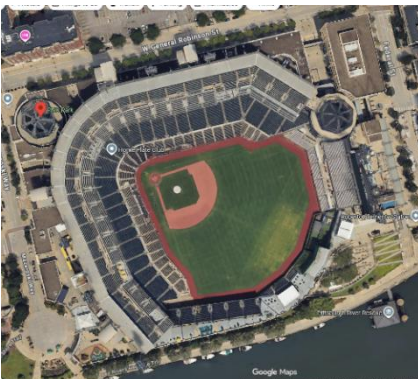
Select the section and seat that works best for you!

Interested in attending as a group or reserving a private space? Contact Joshua Avart at 412-325-4903 or joshua.avart@pirates.com

<https://www.gofevo.com/event/Ucowfconference2>

LinkedIn: <https://www.gofevo.com/Ucowfconference2>

X / Twitter: <https://www.gofevo.com/s/twitter/Ucowfconference2?purl=56f417911a5c>



UCOWF Increases

Effective July 1, 2026, the following increases will take effect:

- Membership Fees - \$60.00
- Corporate Fees - \$1,500
- CWFI Annual Fees - \$25.00
- CWFI Exam Fees - \$75.00
- Conference Registration Fees (*last day to register is August 21, 2026*):
 - Early Bird from (*ends July 31, 2026*) - \$560.00
 - Regular Members - \$635.00
 - Non-Members - \$685.00
 - Daily Rates - \$210.00

Additions to the UCOWF Home page

There have been a few additions to the UCOWF home page. Up at the top right corner the link to our **X account** has been added. Also, at the top of the page there is a tab called **Report Fraud**. This is a link to the SNAP Fraud Prevention website where individuals can report SNAP fraud. The website goes into details on Recipient Fraud, Retailer Fraud, and SNAP Scams. The website also has contact information on how to report fraud. [SNAP Fraud Prevention | Food and Nutrition Service](#)

UCOWF FACT SHEETS

[UCOWF Response to NPRM](#)

February 17, 2026, Comments on NPRM “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, HHS Notice of Benefit and Payment Parameters for 2024; and Basic Health Program.

[UCOWF Letter to House Oversight Committee; Curbing Federal Fraud Hearing](#)

January 8, 2026, Letter to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

[UCOWF Statement on MN Gov Tim Walz Stepping out due to widespread fraud](#)

January 5, 2026, Statement on Minnesota Fraud.

[UCOWF Letter to House Oversight Regarding MN Fraud Hearing](#)

January 5, 2026, Letter to the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability.

[Southern District of New York | USDA Employee Sentenced to Two Years in Prison for Multimillion-Dollar Food Stamp Fraud and Bribery Scheme | United States Department of Justice](#)

No matter what state you work in, you could fall victim to employee fraud. A USDA employee abused her privileged access to federal systems to sell hundreds of Electronic Benefits Transfer (“EBT”) license numbers to co-conspirators.

[Eastern District of Kentucky | Seven Farmers and a Tobacco Warehouse Manager Sentenced for Crop Insurance Fraud Scheme | United States Department of Justice](#)

Unfortunately, oftentimes welfare fraud is not the only crime occurring. And in this case, burley tobacco grower used services offered at Farmers Tobacco Warehouse in Boyle County, to obtain false documentation to support false claims of loss on his crop insurance.

[Southern District of Mississippi | Jackson Woman Sentenced in Federal Court for SNAP Benefits Fraud | United States Department of Justice](#)

A Jackson women charged with multi state SNAP Fraud within the states including Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Massachusetts, Maryland, New York, and Tennessee.

[Southern District of Mississippi | Romanian National Sentenced to Nine Months in Federal Prison for Installing Skimmers throughout Southern District of Mississippi | United States Department of Justice](#)

Skimming is on the rise it adds up. In Mississippi, two individuals were indicted on installing skimming devices in multiple stores.

[Idaho ramps up efforts to combat childcare program fraud and abuse](#)

It can happen in your own backyard. Compliance issues are on the rise within the Child Card Programs.

[SEC SCOTT BESSENT: Trump's Treasury follows the money to crush a massive benefits scam | Fox News](#)

Extraordinary crime requires an extraordinary response. President Trump has provided that by launching the largest anti-fraud campaign of the 21st century

[Inside Our Nationwide Crackdown on Card Skimming and Fraud | United States Secret Service](#)

In 2025, the Secret Service partnered with local law enforcement organizations to investigate 60,000 card readers

[Habits of Fraudster Rhode Island | DMV and SNAP Fraud | Fraud of the Day](#)

The idea that fraudsters are inherently fraudsters for life is a simplification.

[GOP SNAP Reforms Target Fraud and Waste, but Congress Must Go Further | Cato at Liberty Blog](#)

How far will Congress go to reform SNAP welfare fraud.

[Trump officials see fraud everywhere. Here's what we know | CNN Politics](#)

Welfare fraud is everywhere, but what do we really know about it?



[U.S. Department of Agriculture Office of Inspector General](#)

Review of Food and Nutrition Service Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program/Electronic Benefits Transfer Hardware

[U.S. House of Representatives passes Kennedy, Peters, Wyden bill to end government payments to deceased Americans - Press releases - U.S. Senator John Kennedy](#)

John Kennedy explains his bill to stop paying dead people. He also states at the end of the video how he is working on stopped welfare benefits. He said he is going to introduce a bill to stop welfare fraud.

[Kennedy on his plan to stop paying dead people: "It's on its way to President Trump's desk"](#)



[U.S. Secret Service Kicks off 2026 EBT Fraud and ATM skimming Outreach Operations with Multi-city Effort | United States Secret Service](#)

U.S. Secret Service Kicks off 2026 EBT Fraud and ATM skimming Outreach Operations with Multi-city Effort

[Mobile app fails to stop food stamp thieves stealing billions in taxpayer dollars](#)

Georgia mom's SNAP benefits were stolen within a minute of unlocking her card on a mobile app many states advise for benefit protection.

[U.S. Department of Agriculture](#)

Office of Inspector General Review of food and Nutrition Service Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program/Electronic Benefits Transfer Hardware – January 2026

[Stolen Identities, Stolen Benefits | Louisiana | Identity Theft Fraud | Fraud of the Day](#)

Louisiana investigators have uncovered an identity theft scheme that exploited weaknesses in identity verification to fraudulently access multiple public assistance programs.





[CONSUMER ALERT: EBT Scams are on the Rise - Arkansas Attorney General](#)

Arkansans are experiencing an increase in EBT theft. Scammers are accessing funds on EBT cards without the knowledge of the recipient and then immediately spending that money in states outside Arkansas.

<https://epicforamerica.org/federal-budget/categorical-eligibility-allows-legalized-food-stamp-fraud/>

Categorical eligibility allows states to bypass the federal Food Stamp eligibility standards.

[District of Minnesota | Woman Sentenced for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Fraud | United States Department of Justice](#)

A Minnesota woman was sentenced in United States District Court to 12 months imprisonment followed by a year of supervised release on one count of mail fraud and ordered to repay \$325,159 in restitution to the United States Department of Agriculture.

[The DOJ's New Division for National Fraud Enforcement | Steptoe](#)

On January 8, 2026, the White House announced the creation of a new Department of Justice (DOJ) Division for National Fraud Enforcement (the Division) aimed at strengthening federal efforts to combat fraud across the United States.

[U.S. Secret Service EBT Fraud, Card Skimming Outreach in Mobile, Alabama, Prevents Estimated Loss of \\$3.1 Million | United States Secret Service](#)

The U.S. Secret Service, along with Federal, state and local law enforcement partners concluded a two-day outreach operation aimed at combatting illegal payment card skimming and Electronic Benefit Transfer fraud.

[Woman convicted of fraud after living under a stolen identity for more than 20 years](#)

An undocumented Colombian woman living in Boston was convicted in federal court of identity theft and voter fraud after prosecutors said she used a stolen identity to get government benefits, multiple state IDs, and apply for a U.S. passport, federal prosecutors announced.

[Office of Public Affairs | Fraud Tourists Plead Guilty to Minneapolis Medicaid Fraud | United States Department of Justice](#)

Defendants Used AI to Fabricate Records and Marketed Themselves as "The Housing Guys" at Homeless Shelters.





[Feds allege \\$3.4 billion Medicare fraud scheme tied to Russian citizen living in Austin | KXAN Austin](#)

Medicare fraud is on the rise. Federal authorities say a Texas man helped orchestrate a health care fraud scheme that billed Medicare billions of dollars for medical equipment.

[Eastern District of Pennsylvania | Philadelphia Man Sentenced to Over Two Years in Prison for Defrauding the Government of More Than \\$1 Million in SNAP, Medicaid Benefits | United States Department of Justice](#)

Philadelphia Man Sentenced to Over Two Years in Prison for defrauding SNAP, Medicaid programs.

[Eastern District of California | Fresno Baker Sentenced to 3 Years in Prison for SNAP Fraud | United States Department of Justice](#)

Business fraud happens and in this case Bakery in Fresno, exchanged Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits for cash and also accepted SNAP benefits for unauthorized items at the request of customers.

[Billions Stolen: Why Government Doesn't Crack Down on Fraud](#)



[\\$1M snap, pandemic unemployment fraud scheme used 115 stolen ids | Fox News](#)

Four people, including two Venezuelan citizens, used 115 stolen identities in a \$1 million food stamps and pandemic unemployment fraud scheme.

[Millions in SNAP benefits lost through card skimmers, other fraud](#)

Billions in taxpayer dollars are disappearing from the accounts of families who need help putting food on the table as fraud has hit an all-time high, according to federal investigators.

[Trading Food Benefits for Fast Cash | Missouri | SNAP Fraud | Fraud of the Day](#)

Federal and state investigators have charged a Missouri man for orchestrating a large-scale Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) fraud scheme that converted taxpayer-funded food benefits into cash through a network of cooperating retailers.





FRAUD IN THE NEWS:

[Western District of Louisiana | Lafayette Father and Daughters Sentenced for Yearslong Conspiracy to Defraud Federal Child Nutrition Program | United States Department of Justice](#)

a 64-year-old Lafayette resident, was sentenced to 36 months in federal prison for his role leading a yearslong conspiracy to defraud a federal nutrition assistance program operated by the United States Department of Agriculture ("USDA").

[Milwaukee convenience store owner guilty in \\$1.6M SNAP fraud scheme](#)

A Milwaukee convenience store owner has agreed to plead guilty to defrauding the federal government's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program of more than \$1.6 million over the course of about three years.

[Two Foreign Nationals Indicted in Chicago as Part of \\$10 Million Health Care Fraud Scheme | Office of Inspector General | Government Oversight | U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](#)

Two foreign nationals participated in a \$10 million scheme to fraudulently bill Medicare and private insurers for nonexistent health care services, according to an indictment returned in federal court in Chicago.

[SNAP reform targets health crisis with stricter food stocking rules | Fox News](#)

rump administration modernizes food assistance as chronic health conditions affect 40% of American children

[Eastern District of Kentucky | London Woman Sentenced for Wire Fraud and Money Laundering Conspiracy Involving COVID Relief Loans | United States Department of Justice](#)

A London woman was sentenced on Tuesday to 44 months by U.S. District Judge Claria Horn Boom for wire fraud and conspiracy to commit money laundering, arising out of a scheme to fraudulently obtain Economic Injury Disaster Loans and Paycheck Protection Program loans.

UCOWF AFFILIATES

The Informer – Colorado Welfare Fraud Council

Membership 2026

All of this for just \$40.00 per year! You can now pay your membership dues of \$40.00 online [HERE](#). Your 2026 CWFC membership still includes a discount for UCOWF membership and includes:

- CWFC membership for 2026 will run from January 1, 2026, to December 31, 2026, and will also give members access to: Monthly Ask an Investigator meeting. Do you have questions or are looking for some guidance, join the CWFC Board for a monthly virtual meeting.



The Informer – Colorado Welfare Fraud Council

- NEW 2026: Training to reach everyone, quarterly training topics, tips, and tricks to help with everyday workflow.
- The Resource Guide – an in-depth manual that describes the fraud investigation process as well as the potential outcomes of fraud investigations.
- One-on-one communication with Board members to have your voice heard on your specific questions, concerns, and ideas. • Assistance via our CWFC email – Please send us your questions!
- The Informer and its archives – Great articles and updates from Colorado and across the country related to public assistance fraud.
- The expertise of Board members on investigations and how they are conducted – Whether you are a large county with numerous investigators or a small county with no investigators, the responses will be personalized and tailored to your county's needs.
- Specialized training on a variety of topics.

UPDATED UCOWF MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT: Due to new affiliate membership pricing for the United Council on Welfare Fraud (UCOWF), CWFC membership will include 10% off UCOWF membership. <https://www.ucowf.net/>

Tips and Tricks for subpoenas!

- Use this link for delivery details <https://www.search.org/resources/isp-list/>
- Address the subpoena exactly how the name is listed for that entity for example, US Bank is U.S. Bank National Association and will not accept if not addressed as such.
- If there is a registered agent, make sure and address it to the entity as well as the registered agent and mail it to the registered agent's address.
- State business search provides registered agent details.
- If sending subpoenas through the mail, certified gets much better responses.
- Local banks, for the most part want to have subpoenas hand delivered.
- Wells Fargo specifically needs to have a WET signature, no digital signatures.

CWFC or UCOWF or both!

- The United Council on Welfare Fraud is the only national membership association dedicated to defending against the erosion of integrity in public assistance programs – equipping members across the industry with crucial resources for collaboration, professional development, and advocacy.
- The Colorado Welfare Fraud Council is the state of Colorado membership association dedicated to champion and honor the spirit of public assistance programs rules and regulations as

The Informer – Colorado Welfare Fraud Council

they relate to fraud. That offers monthly meetings, collaboration with investigators, recovery and eligibility workers across the state.

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