



August 20, 2026

UCOWF Statement on Nation's Debt

"Systemic Fraud has to be Part of the Solution"

KEITH MISKIE

NE – President

GREG MATTHEWS

NC - Vice-President

DAVID KRASNOW

CO – Secretary

ANDREW PETITT

WV – Treasurer

LAURA LINDSEY

KS – Business Manager

& Media Inquiries:

info@ucowf.net

Intergovernmental Board

& Legislative Inquiries:

DAWN ROYAL

Dawn.Royal.UCOWF@gmail.com

ANDY McCLENAHAN

Andrew.McClenahan.UCOWF@gmail.com

Following yesterday's U.S. Treasury announcement that our nation's gross national debt has now topped \$40 trillion, the United Council on Welfare Fraud (UCOWF) released the following statement:

"Five months ago, the nation crossed the threshold of \$39 trillion with the expectation that we'd reach \$40 trillion in debt sometime in mid-2027," said Keith Miskie, President of UCOWF. "Sadly, this wasn't the case. And, while we are all trying to grapple with the magnitude of this number, it's now obvious that affordability must be front and center to help American families struggling to make ends meet."

"Addressing systemic fraud in our nation's safety net programs, i.e., Medicaid, SNAP, WIC, TANF, etc., has to be part of the solution – both at the beneficiary and the provider levels. One without the other is shortsighted and hurts beneficiaries and taxpayers alike. You can't have a thriving economy without first addressing this fraud."

"UCOWF urges the Administration and Congress to build on its efforts and swiftly use all the tools in its arsenal in implementing meaningful and lasting change. Yesterday's news should serve as a rallying cry, and UCOWF and the nation's fraud investigators stand ready to work with all who are working to accomplish these ends."

###

UCOWF is the only national professional organization solely dedicated to the prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and recovery of fraud in public assistance programs. Our members are the boots on the ground in states, counties, territories, and federal agencies. They see where the systems fail, how fraudsters exploit those failures, and how federal policy can either help or hinder a successful investigation. (www.ucowf.net)

Dan Boston – Health Policy Source, Inc.

C - (202) 285-6842

dboston@healthpolycysource.com

Kristen Gullott – Dogwood Strategies

C - (202) 550-0465

kristen@dogwoodstrategies.com

