

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 4, 2024



## THE FRESNO COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES CONTINUES TO REVIEW AND INVESTIGATE ANY SUSPECTED INCIDENTS OF FRAUD

**FRESNO, CA -** The Fresno County Department of Social Services (DSS) reaffirms its commitment to combating internal and external fraud and strengthening accountability.

Upon discovering any suspected fraud, the DSS Integrity Review Unit (IRU) promptly initiates a thorough review and collaborates with the Fresno County District Attorney's office for a complete investigation.

The department's robust partnership with the DA's office ensures a thorough investigation and prosecution of fraudulent activities related to various types of welfare fraud. In addition, DSS employs dedicated staff whose mission is to safeguard the integrity of services through internal reviews and audits and by providing staff training on fraud detection and prevention.

DSS remains vigilant in executing protocols that help detect fraud and will not tolerate any actions that put clients' information at risk. DSS will do everything necessary to assist the DA in any investigation and prosecution of welfare fraud.

DSS employees are dedicated public servants who serve the most vulnerable populations with the utmost integrity.

## **Fraud Prevention Tips**

If you suspect fraud, please contact the Welfare Fraud hotline at 559-600-3763.

Here's a <u>video link</u> / <u>Spanish video</u> from the California Department of Social Services about preventing EBT fraud.

Here are more tips to prevent fraud.

- Keep your PIN and card number a secret.
- Do not click on any links from text messages regarding your EBT account.
- Watch out for suspicious websites.
- Protect your benefits. Change your habits and keep track of your balances daily.
- Check your receipt after each purchase.

## For more information, contact the following:

Department of Social Services

• Maurice Ndole, Public Information Officer, mndole@fresnocountyca.gov