

DSS ADMINISTRATIVE LETTER NO. ECONOMIC AND FAMILY SERVICES 11-2011
Intent to sell Food and Nutrition Services
(October 18, 2011)

(Food and Nutrition Services)

TO: County Directors of Social Services

ATTENTION: Program Integrity Managers and Supervisors
Food and Nutrition Services Managers and Supervisors

DATE: October 18, 2011

SUBJECT: Intent to sell Food and Nutrition Services

EFFECTIVE: Upon Receipt

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

Current Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) policy provides the definition and examples of FNS trafficking as the actual sell of FNS benefits/card for cash or other items not allowed by USDA regulations. It also states that an IPV claim must be established for the amount of benefits that were trafficked.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) recently clarified the definition of trafficking to include recipients who publicly try to sell their FNS benefits/cards. The following policy will be added to the FNS policy manual at the next update.

II. POLICY PROCEDURES

- A. Individuals who sell or try to sell their FNS benefits/cards for cash or items not allowed by USDA regulations are guilty of an Intentional Program Violation. Pursue IPV disqualifications when there is evidence of intent to traffick. Following are some examples of intent to sell FNS benefits/cards. This list is not inclusive:
1. FNS benefits/cards are offered for sale in a public place. The public place may be a grocery store.
 2. FNS benefits/cards are offered for sale online through Web sites and social media such as Craig's List, Facebook, Twitter, eBay, etc.

- B. IPV claim amounts for trafficking or intended trafficking:
1. Zero for IPV claims when no benefits were actually sold or transferred: or
 2. The amount of benefits that were actually trafficked.
- C. Enter IPV claims in EPICS regardless of the amount of the overissuance. Enter \$1.00 as the claim amount when there is no overissuance. Request the State office close the claim by adjusting the claim amount to zero once the process to establish the IPV disqualification is complete and entered in EPICS. Follow instructions in policy manual section 820.12.

III. IMPLEMENTATION INSTRUCTIONS

Apply this policy to all referrals received after the receipt of this letter.

If you have any questions, contact your Food and Nutrition Services and Energy Programs Regional Support Team directly via email.

Sincerely,



Dean Simpson, Chief
Economic and Family Services Section

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