

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 16, 2026

Shiela Corley
Acting Administrator
Food and Nutrition Administration
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250

RE: Solicitation for SNAP Retailer Investigations Services

Dear Acting Administrator Corley:

As Members of Congress committed to protecting the integrity of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program, we write regarding a Request for Proposal (RFP) issued by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Administration (FNA) on June 10, 2026, seeking SNAP Retailer Investigations Services (Solicitation Number 12319826R5000).

SNAP fraud is not a new problem, but it remains a persistent and costly one. In 2025, USDA estimated that over \$3 billion per year is being lost to waste, fraud, and abuse in SNAP.¹ Misconduct in the SNAP program, including via retailer fraud, hinders critical benefits from reaching those who need them the most and constricts the federal budget. SNAP retailer fraud occurs when retailers exchange SNAP benefits for cash (i.e., trafficking), sell items that are not allowable in SNAP, or include fraudulent information on their application to become an authorized SNAP retailer.

Given that more than 37 million individuals and families redeem their SNAP benefits at stores nationwide per month, vigilant oversight of SNAP retailers remains critically important.² This is especially important considering SNAP-authorized retailers process more than \$90 billion per year in taxpayer-funded SNAP transactions annually – approximately \$236 million a day.³

We note our support for the contractor evaluation framework outlined in the RFP and encourage FNA to seek a contractor with demonstrated experience, institutional knowledge, specialized personnel, and the advanced technological capabilities necessary to protect the integrity of the

¹ [USDA SNAP Program Integrity Data Team: Preliminary Report | Food and Nutrition Administration](#)

² [SNAP Number of Persons Participating](#)

³ [USDA Requires SNAP Authorized Retailers to Carry More Real Food | USDA](#)

SNAP program. We also suggest centralizing this critical work under a singular contract rather than dividing SNAP retailer investigation duties between several unique entities to help reduce inefficiencies, maintain adequate oversight, and maximize the impact of the work being done.

We respectfully urge FNA to consider contractors with the following core capabilities for this work:

- **Technical Approach**

- *Specialized, Expert Workforce.* The solicitation rightly calls for evaluation of investigative staff qualifications, the ability to recruit and retain credentialed personnel, and a plan for managing nationwide operations with quality control. We urge FNA to select a contractor with credentialed investigative personnel at the ready, who understand retailer fraud schemes, have existing relationships with law enforcement partners, and know the evidentiary standards of federal program integrity.
- *Human-in-the-Loop Technology.* SNAP is no exception in the push for responsible use of proven technology-driven tactics, such as artificial intelligence (AI), to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse in federal programs. We encourage FNA to select a contractor whose processes combine AI with a responsible level of human oversight to ensure evidence is reviewed and validated by trained investigators and can be defensible in federal court proceedings and administrative hearings.

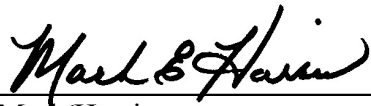
- **Past Performance**

- *Track Record of SNAP Retailer Fraud Enforcement.* The solicitation evaluates relevant experience in investigations, compliance, surveillance, and similar high-risk services. We strongly urge FNA to give significant credit to contractors with a demonstrated track record of executing SNAP retailer fraud detection and enforcement. Given the complexity and sensitivity of this work, FNA should particularly consider contractors who have executed this specific mission across multiple fiscal years.

We feel strongly that SNAP benefits should go to Americans in need, not to bad actors exploiting a program intended to feed the most vulnerable among us. This solicitation represents an important opportunity to shield SNAP from retailer fraud and protect the integrity of the program as millions of constituents continue to rely upon its services. We urge FNA to evaluate applicants in a manner that prioritizes experience, workforce quality, technological modernization, and proven results.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and welcome the opportunity to discuss these priorities further.

Sincerely,



Mark Harris
Member of Congress



Diana Harshbarger
Member of Congress



Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



Keith Self
Member of Congress



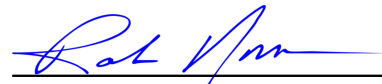
Pat Fallon
Member of Congress



Wesley Hunt
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Randy Fine
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Derrick Van Orden
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