



United States Department of Justice

Offices of the United States Attorneys



THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
WESTERN DISTRICT *of* OKLAHOMA

U.S. Attorneys » Western District of Oklahoma » News

Department of Justice

U.S. Attorney's Office

Western District of Oklahoma

SHARE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

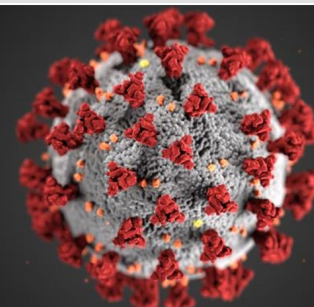
Wednesday, March 1, 2017

Former Guthrie Convenience Store Owner Pays \$65,000 to Settle Allegations of False Claims for Trafficking in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Benefits

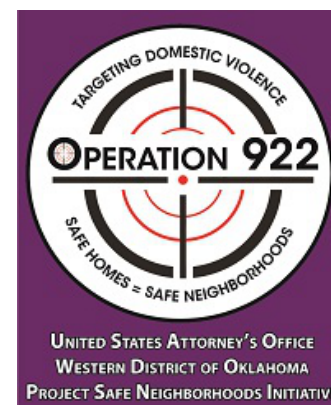
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma – ATCH, LLC d/b/a G-MART and ALI ASGHAR KHAN have paid \$65,000 to settle allegations that they violated the False Claims Act by submitting false claims under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to the United States Department of Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Service, announced Mark A. Yancey, United States Attorney for the Western District of Oklahoma.

The SNAP program was established to provide food to low-income individuals through approved retail food stores. The Oklahoma Department of Human Services (ODHS) determines whether individuals are eligible to receive benefits. Owners of retail stores apply for USDA authorization to accept SNAP benefits as payment for eligible food items, and the applicants certify they understand that trading cash or ineligible items for food stamp benefits violates the program regulations. Since February of 2008, ODHS has given electronic benefit transfer cards (a debit-type card known as Access Oklahoma cards) to SNAP recipients instead of paper food stamps.

ATCH, LLC, an Oklahoma limited liability company, formerly owned a retail convenience store named G-Mart in Guthrie, Oklahoma. Khan is the owner of ATCH and operated G-Mart. Khan was a resident of Guthrie and currently resides in McKinney, Texas. ATCH was an authorized SNAP retailer from



REPORT COVID-19 FRAUD



May 20, 2009, until February 18, 2015. As an authorized retailer, ATCH was allowed to accept SNAP benefits from eligible recipients as payment for eligible food items. SNAP benefits cannot be exchanged for cash or ineligible items.

The United States contends that from March 1, 2011, through March 31, 2013, ATCH and Khan submitted claims for SNAP benefits to the United States that were false or fraudulent because the Defendants trafficked in SNAP benefits. More specifically, it was alleged that ATCH and Khan represented that claims for SNAP benefits submitted to the United States were in exchange for qualified food products when in fact they exchanged SNAP benefits for cash and ineligible items.

On June 20, 2016, the United States filed an action against ATCH and Khan in the United States District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma captioned *United States v. ATCH, LLC d/b/a G-Mart and Ali Asghar Khan*, CIV-16-683-F. In order to resolve the allegations brought by the United States, ATCH and Khan paid \$65,000. In reaching this settlement, ATCH and Khan did not admit liability and the government did not make any concessions regarding the legitimacy of the claims. The agreement allows the parties to avoid the delay, expense, inconvenience, and uncertainty involved in litigating the case.

This case was investigated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Matthew P. Anderson and Ronald R. Gallegos.

Component(s):

USAO - Oklahoma, Western

Updated March 1, 2017



JOIN OUR PRESS LIST



Sexual harassment
in housing is illegal.



Help us combat the
proliferation of sexual
exploitation crimes
against children.

VWA
VICTIM
WITNESS
ASSISTANCE

Making sure that victims
of federal crimes are
treated with compassion,
fairness and respect.

HOME

ABOUT

NEWS

U.S. ATTORNEY

DIVISIONS

PROGRAMS / INITIATIVES

JOBS

CONTACT US

About the District

Civil Division

Criminal Division

Community Outreach

Project Safe Childhood

Project Safe Neighborhoods

Tribal Initiatives

Victim Witness Assistance

Victims' Rights

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Accessibility

Justice.gov

FOIA

USA.gov

Privacy Policy

Legal Policies & Disclaimers