

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND**

RHODE ISLAND STATE COUNCIL OF
CHURCHES, *et al.*,

Plaintiffs,

v.

BROOKE ROLLINS, in her official
capacity as Secretary of the United
States Department of Agriculture, *et al.*,

Defendants.

No. 25-cv-00569-JJM-AEM

DEFENDANTS' NOTICE TO COURT

Earlier today, USDA issued guidance to all SNAP State Agencies. *Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefit Issuance and the Continuing Appropriations, Agriculture, Legislative Branch, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Extensions Act, 2026*, <https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/benefit-issuance-nov13> (Nov. 13, 2025). Among other topics, the guidance reported that: “[f]ull fiscal year (FY) 26 federal funding is now available to cover benefit issuance, State administrative expenses, and Nutrition Assistance Program (NAP) grants in Puerto Rico, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), including for November 2025 benefits and expenses.” *Id.* at 1.

With respect to November benefits, USDA directed that “State agencies must take immediate steps to ensure households receive their full November allotments promptly.” *Id.*

In addition, the guidance stated that “[g]iven November’s implementation challenges, FNS will not hold States accountable for application processing or recertification timeliness for November 2025.” *Id.* at 2. Further, “FNS shall not pursue any additional penalties against State agencies, pursuant to 7 CFR 271.7(h), due to extraordinary circumstances.” *Id.* at 1.

Defendants will confer with Plaintiffs in the coming days about appropriate next steps in this litigation.

Dated: November 13, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

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Associate Attorney General

BRETT A. SHUMATE
Assistant Attorney General

YAAKOV M. ROTH
Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General

/s/ Tyler J. Becker

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

On this 13th day of November, 2025, I caused the within document to be filed electronically. It is available for viewing and downloading from the Court's ECF system, which will serve it upon all counsel of record.

/s/ Tyler J. Becker

TYLER J. BECKER

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