

August 14, 2025

Patrick A. Penn  
Deputy Under Secretary  
Food, Nutrition, and Consumer Services  
U.S. Department of Agriculture

***Re: Response to August 12, 2025 USDA Demand***

Dear Deputy Under Secretary Penn,

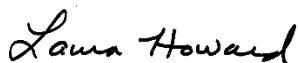
Please be advised that the Kansas Department for Children and Families (“KDCF”) is in receipt of a copy of the August 12, 2025, correspondence you submitted to Governor Kelly demanding a description of what Kansas had done to comply with requests to collect and produce to the USDA FNS a significant amount of SNAP data. This data includes “personally identifying information” of both SNAP recipients and household members. As we previously advised, we have evaluated the request and have determined that providing the data requested at this time may open KDCF to significant liability depending upon the outcome of pending litigation.

In addition, the sheer size of the data request makes compliance an impossibility given the deadlines involved. Moreover, producing the requested information will result in a significant burden on KDCF and its contractors in both man hours and monetary cost. Given these practical considerations, along with the legal uncertainty addressed above and in prior correspondence, KDCF is unable to comply with the USDA FNS request at this time. Please be advised that we will continue to evaluate this matter and will continue to administer the SNAP program as required by Federal law.

In your August 12, 2025 letter, you threaten suspension or other administrative actions unless data is provided by August 15, 2025. Under this three-day timeline, even if the request were clearly legal, it would not be possible for KDCF to produce the requested years of data. Until this demand has been determined to be lawful by the pending litigation we ask that you withdraw this threat. KDCF is positioned to take steps to respond to a potential future clearly lawful request on a timeline that is feasible.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned in the event you have any questions or comments regarding the above.

Respectfully,



Laura Howard  
Secretary  
Kansas Department for Children and Families