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JUN 25 2025  
Clerk, U.S. Courts  
District of Montana  
Missoula Division

**ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MONTANA  
BUTTE DIVISION**

<b>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,</b>	<b>CR 25- 27 -BU- DLC</b>
<b>Plaintiff,</b>	<b>INDICTMENT</b>
<b>vs.</b>	<b>THEFT OF PUBLIC MONEY</b>
<b>KIMBERLY LYNN BENGTON,</b>	<b>Title 18 U.S.C. § 641</b>
<b>Defendant.</b>	<b>(Penalty: Ten years of imprisonment, \$250,000 fine, and three years of supervised release)</b>

THE GRAND JURY CHARGES:

INTRODUCTION

At all times relevant to the indictment:

1. Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (formerly known as Food Stamps) is a federal nutrition assistance program for low-income individuals and families. The State of Montana facilitates the SNAP through its

Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS). To receive SNAP benefits, individuals must identify individuals with whom the applicant lives—either permanently or temporarily—and meet income eligibility standards. SNAP recipients must report changes, including household composition and income. SNAP is financed, at least in part, by federal funds administered through the State of Montana.

2. Medicaid provides healthcare benefits for eligible low-income Montanans. Medicaid pays for services that are medically necessary. Eligibility is determined based upon household composition, income, and resource limits. Medicaid recipients must report any changes impacting eligibility within ten days. If an individual has changes in the household, including marriage and household composition, then those changes must be reported within ten days. Medicaid includes federal funds administered through the State of Montana.

3. The defendant, KIMBERLY LYNN BENGTON, applied for and received benefits from SNAP and Medicaid. However, the defendant, KIMBERLY LYNN BENGTON, was not entitled to the full amount of such benefits because she failed to disclose, and affirmatively misled authorities about her marriage, relationship status, household composition, income, and financial resources, none of which was allowed.

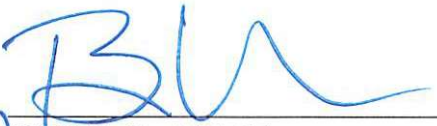
THEFT OF PUBLIC MONEY

That between in or about July 2020 and June 2025, at Butte, within Silver Bow County, and elsewhere, in the State and District of Montana, the defendant, KIMBERLY LYNN BENGTON, willfully and knowingly embezzled, stole, purloined, and converted to her use and the use of another, money from the United States, and any department and agency thereof, the value of which exceeded, in the aggregate, more than \$1,000 from the SNAP and Medicaid programs, all of which contained federal funds, and which she was not entitled to receive, in whole and in part, due to her marriage, relationship status, household composition, income, and financial resources, all in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 641.

A TRUE BILL.

Foreperson signature redacted. Original document filed under seal.

FOREPERSON

  
(for) KURT G. ALME  
United States Attorney

  
CYNDEE L. PETERSON  
Criminal Chief Assistant U.S. Attorney