



# Department of Justice

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Middle District of Florida

Tampa                      Orlando  
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## **THREE OWNERS OF BRADENTON FOOD MART INDICTED FOR WIRE AND FOOD STAMP FRAUD**

Tampa, Florida - United States Attorney Robert E. O'Neill announces the return by a grand jury last week of an indictment charging Majdi Juma (29), Hikmat Juma (38) and Nidal Juma (40) with conspiracy to defraud the United States and commit various offenses against the United States, including food stamp fraud and wire fraud. Majdi Juma and Hikmat Juma have also been charged individually with two separate counts of unlawful structuring of financial transactions to evade currency reporting requirements.

According to the indictment, Majdi Juma, Hikmat Juma and Nidal Juma operated Super Corner Food Mart (SCFM), a retail convenience store located at 909 1st Street East in Bradenton, Florida. During the time frame of the alleged conspiracy, SCFM was a participant in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as the Food Stamp Program. From July 2008 through February 2010, Majdi Juma, Hikmat Juma and Nidal Juma allegedly conspired and schemed to cheat SNAP by purchasing SNAP benefits from SCFM customers in exchange for cash, minus a fee of approximately 50% of the total amount charged to the individual recipient's SNAP account. This is an illegal practice known as "discounting" or "cash-back." The alleged total loss to the federal government for the period charged is approximately \$857,321.

The defendants face the following penalties:

	Charges
Majdi Juma	1, 2-7, 12, 14, 15
Hikmat Juma	1, 2-7, 8,9, 10, 13, 16
Nidal Juma	1, 2-7, 11
<b>Maximum Penalties:</b> Count 1 - Conspiracy to commit wire fraud, food stamp fraud - 5 years Count 2-7 - Wire fraud - 20 years Count 8-14 - Food stamp fraud - 5 years Count 15, 16 - Structuring financial transactions - 10 years	

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty.

This case was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Homeland Security Investigations (HSI), the Manatee County Sheriff's Office, the Sarasota County Sheriff's Office, Florida Department of Law Enforcement, the Bradenton Police Department, United States Secret Service and the Department of Agriculture, Office of the Inspector General. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Simon Gaugush.