



PRESS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA

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May 22, 2012
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Weston Resident Sentenced to Eight Months Imprisonment for Food Stamp Fraud

ELKINS, WEST VIRGINIA - A 29 year old Weston, West Virginia, resident was sentenced on May 22, 2012, in United States District Court in Elkins by Chief Judge John Preston Bailey.

United States Attorney William J. Ihlenfeld, II, announced that: LENA LUNSFORD, was sentenced to 8 months imprisonment to be followed by one year of supervised release. LUNSFORD entered a plea of guilty on January 10, 2012, to one count of knowingly selling portions of her SNAP benefits valued in an amount in excess of \$100.00. On October 15, 2011, LUNSFORD knowingly used any food benefits in a manner contrary to law in that she used and caused to be used an EBT card, also known as Mountain State card, to acquire Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits valued in the amount of \$114.82 in exchange for \$50 in cash paid to LUNSFORD by another individual. The Court ordered LUNSFORD to make restitution in the amount of \$522.82 to the United States Department of Agriculture - Food and Nutrition Service.

LUNSFORD, who is on bond, will self-report to the designated Federal institution on June 28, 2012.

This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Shawn A. Morgan and was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the West Virginia State Police-Bureau of Criminal Investigations.

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