

Ohio Investigative Unit



MEDIA RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Three Cuyahoga County residents arraigned after indictment for food stamp fraud

(Cleveland) – Three Cuyahoga County residents appeared in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court last week for illegal use of food stamps and money laundering.

The individuals were arraigned in the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court on March 14 for the following:

- Nafez Assad, 54, of Westlake, three counts of illegal use of food stamps, two counts of money laundering, one count of theft and telecommunications fraud.
- Irma Solivan, 42, of Cleveland, six counts of illegal use of food stamps, seven counts of money laundering, one count of theft and telecommunications fraud.
- Ariel Santiago, 46, of Cleveland, three counts of illegal use of food stamps and three counts of money laundering.

The Ohio Investigative Unit and the Seven Hills Police Department began investigating the employees of Ezeldean 1 Inc., also known as Dollar Lots, 7120 Dennison Avenue, in Cleveland, after receiving a complaint of various theft offenses and food stamp trafficking.

If you know of any locations or individuals who are misusing food stamps or the electronic benefits transfer card (EBT) please contact OIU at #677.

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The Ohio State Highway Patrol's Ohio Investigative Unit agents are plain-clothed fully sworn peace officers. OIU is charged with enforcing the state's liquor laws and is the only state law enforcement agency specifically tasked with investigating food stamp fraud crimes. Agents also investigate tobacco violations. Follow OIU on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ohio-Investigative-Unit/165782203506269> and on Twitter by logging onto http://twitter.com/Ohio_OIU.