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Kentucky has kicked people off food benefits using data that doesn't tell the full story

This Hunger Action Month we want to share "Laura's" story. She contacted AppalReD Legal Aid after she received a letter telling her she would lose her SNAP benefits. Thankfully, with an attorney by her side, she kept the benefits she needed.



“Laura” received a letter telling her she would lose her SNAP benefits. However, with an AppalReD attorney by her side, Laura proved she was not trafficking her SNAP benefits. Months later she received a similar letter. This time her attorney contacted SNAP and let them know she could not be asked to have a hearing over the exact same offenses. They realized their error. Today, Laura receives her SNAP benefits that put healthy food within her reach.



If you receive a letter taking away your benefits and don't know what to do, we can help!

To learn more about SNAP disqualifications check out a recent news story by Sylvia Goodman looking into [SNAP disqualifications in Kentucky](#).

Here's an excerpt with a quote by Directing Attorney, Kristie Goff:

“There have been very few instances in cases I have handled, where a client was not able to give me a perfectly reasonable explanation for those transactions, and none of it was trafficking,” Goff said. “There are no receipts, there’s no video footage to show that someone’s doing anything wrong. It’s just a number written on a paper.”

While saying purchasing history is insufficient to prove trafficking, Kentucky judges have stopped short of demanding that the state change how it trains employees or conducts its SNAP investigations.

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