

October 12, 2017

Governor Douglas A. Ducey
Office of the Governor
1700 West Washington
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Dear Governor Ducey:

A.R.S. 36-2903.03 requires all applicants to provide documentation to verify immigration status in order to qualify for Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) services and requires AHCCCS to report on its collection and verification of documentation submitted in accordance with this law. Accordingly, please find the following summary of the number of individuals for whom the administration verified immigration status using the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) program administered by the United States citizenship and immigration services from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

The Department of Economic Security (DES) is responsible for making the eligibility determinations for over 75% of the AHCCCS population. For this reason, it is important to recognize that DES conducts the vast majority of all immigration verifications on behalf of AHCCCS. The number of individuals for whom AHCCCS, in conjunction with DES, has verified immigration status using the SAVE program, can be found below. During State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2017, AHCCCS and DES identified two fraudulent documents utilizing the SAVE program. Both cases were returned by SAVE as counterfeit I-551 documents.¹

SAVE DATA (SFY 2017)						
AHCCCS		DES		HEAplus		Total
July	223	July	1,527	July	8,584	10,334
August	929	August	1,862	August	11,287	14,078
September	734	September	1,845	September	10,134	12,713
October	323	October	2,164	October	9,903	12,390
November	290	November	1,853	November	9,299	11,442
December	821	December	1,761	December	9,556	12,138
January	174	January	1,774	January	12,962	14,910
February	158	February	1,697	February	9,559	11,414
March	351	March	1,632	March	11,038	13,021
April	154	April	1,271	April	10,132	11,557
May	183	May	1,452	May	11,822	13,457
June	184	June	1,434	June	10,477	12,095
Total	4,524	Total	20,272	Total	124,753	149,549

¹ I-551 documents are related to permanent residency.

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A.R.S. 36-2903.03 also requires AHCCCS to report on the number of individuals, by citizenship status, referred for prosecution for violations of state or federal law. During SFY 2017, there were sixty-three individuals referred for prosecution. Fifty-two involved citizens and eleven involved non-citizens. These individuals were referred for Fraudulent Schemes and Artifices; Fraud Schemes and Practices; Prohibited Acts, Penalties; Forgery; and Theft or Embezzlement Regarding Health Care.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like any additional information or have any questions regarding the data included in this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a horizontal line that ends in a small flourish.

Thomas J. Betlach
Director

cc: The Honorable Steve Yarbrough, President, Arizona State Senate
The Honorable J.D. Mesnard, Speaker, Arizona House of Representative
Richard Stavneak, Director, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Matthew Gress, Director, Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting
Christina Corieri, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor