

October 12, 2016

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, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

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 below¹. During State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2016, AHCCCS and DES did not identify any fraudulent documents utilizing the SAVE program.

SAVE DATA (SFY 2016)						
AHCCCS		DES		HEAplus		Total
July	375	July	2,960	July	5,498	8,833
August	317	August	2,785	August	5,419	8,521
September	263	September	2,609	September	5,603	8,475
October	476	October	3,343	October	5,618	9,437
November	368	November	2,866	November	8,886	12,120
December	406	December	3,053	December	13,134	16,593
January	469	January	1,779	January	19,020	21,268
February	343	February	1,661	February	16,717	18,721
March	349	March	1,569	March	14,325	16,243
April	277	April	1,471	April	21,787	23,535
May	255	May	1,522	May	18,060	19,837
June	239	June	1,624	June	13,889	15,752
Total	4,137	Total	27,242	Total	147,956	179,335

¹ Increases in SAVE verifications for SFY 2016 were due to duplicative requests during the renewal period. System changes will be implemented going forward to streamline this process so that only one SAVE verification is conducted.

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 2016, there were forty-nine individuals referred for prosecution. Thirty-five involved citizens and fourteen 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, appearing to read "T. J. Betlach". The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Thomas J. Betlach
Director

cc: The Honorable Andy Biggs, President, Arizona State Senate
The Honorable David Gowan, Speaker, Arizona House of Representative
Richard Stavneak, Director, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Lorenzo Romero, Director, Office of Strategic Planning and Budgeting
Christina Corieri, Senior Policy Advisor, Office of the Governor