

An Effective County Government

September 2023



Special Investigations Unit (SIU)

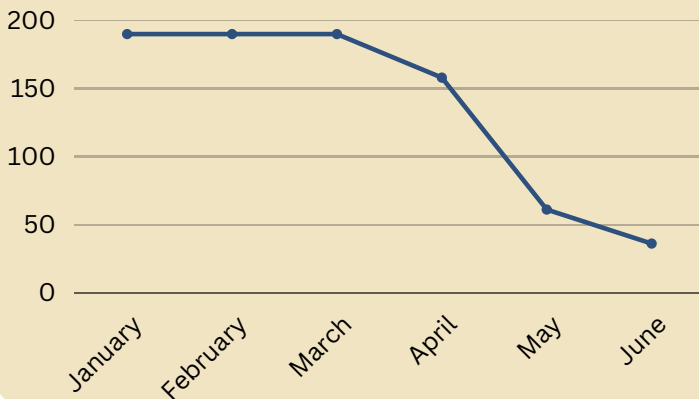
The Special Investigations Unit within the Mendocino County Department of Social Services is designed to ensure the integrity of the CalWORKs and CalFresh programs.

Referrals for investigation are brought forward from:

- State reports for employment verification
- Internal referrals (MCDSS staff working with applicants and beneficiaries)
- State report for Nationwide Prisoner Match
- Members of the public



2023 SIU Backlog Referrals have significantly reduced



Common Fraud Cases

- Unreported income
- Unreported people in/out of household
- Unreported household income
- Incorrect residency
- EBT card and/or benefits selling/trafficking
- Supporting beneficiaries with lost, stolen or skimmed EBT cards

117 Currently open investigations in process

4 Cases are in process with the District Attorney

March 2023 Billy Arms became the Chief Investigator for MCDSS Special Investigations Unit. At that time the unit had a backlog of 190 cases. Working diligently with his team, Chief Arms has reduced that to 91 cases.

Call (707) 467-5800 to report suspected fraud in CalWORKs and CalFresh programs