



GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES
DIPATTAMENTON SALUT PUPBLEKO YAN SETBISION SUSIAT



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BES POLICY NO: 2023-10
PROGRAM APPLICABILITY: SNAP & TANF
EFFECTIVE DATE: July 12, 2023

To: [x] Bureau of Economic Security
[x] Bureau of Management Support
[x] Bureau of Health Care Financing Administration
[x] DPW State Office

From: Bureau of Economic Security

Subject: Lifting of Lifetime Ban on Drug Convicted Felons' Participation in SNAP/TANF

POLICY:

Applicants for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) who have been convicted of drug related felony shall be exempt from the application of Section 115 of the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996 and by allowing payment of SNAP and TANF benefits to an otherwise eligible individual.

BACKGROUND:

In the nearly 30 years since PRWORA was passed, a felony conviction in Guam involving the use, possession and distribution of a controlled substance rendered a person permanently ineligible for federal assistance under Section 115 of PRWORA. Other than Guam, the state of South Carolina is the only U. S. jurisdiction in which people with felony drug convictions are permanently ineligible for SNAP and TANF.

The recent enactment of Public Law 37-24 has lifted the lifetime ban imposed by PRWORA on individuals convicted with federal or state drug felonies committed on or after August 22, 1996 who are applying for SNAP and TANF benefits.

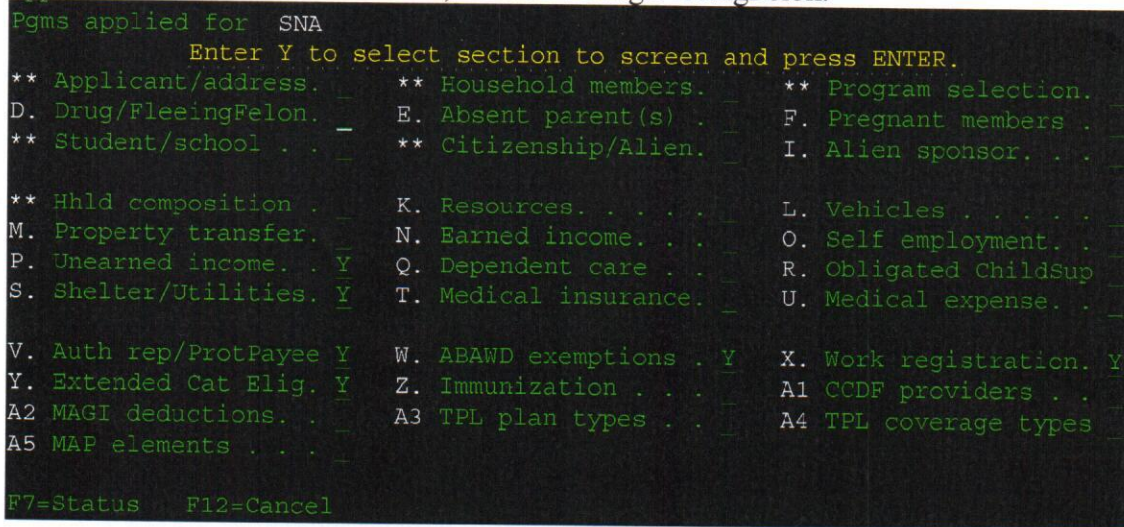
The law states that the drug convicted felon (domiciled in Guam) who otherwise complies with the requirements of the Federal Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, to be eligible, shall have successfully completed probation, parole, community corrections, a reentry court program, or any other post-conviction monitoring program ordered by the court or is successfully complying with the condition of probation, parole, or community corrections, the terms of participation in a reentry

court program or the requirements of any other post-conviction monitoring program ordered by a court.

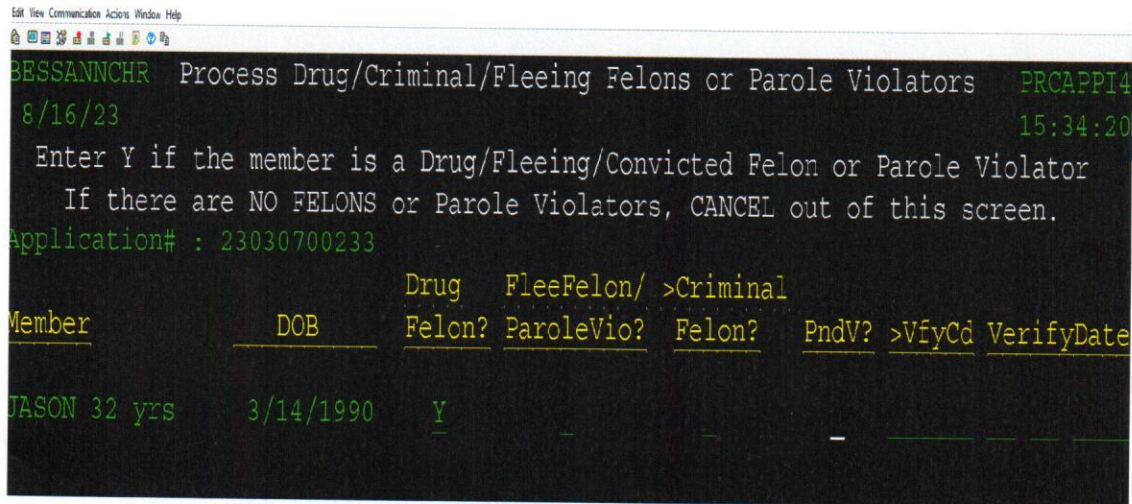
INSTRUCTIONS:

All Eligibility Specialists (ESs) and Eligibility Specialist Supervisors (ESSs) are required to adhere to the policy. The following shall be keyed in at PH/pro.

1. On the BES online screen module, select D. Drug/FleeingFelon.



2. Enter "Y" under the Drug Felon and select the type of verification provided under the ">VfrCd".



REFERENCES:

Section 115 of the Federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA) of 1996, 21 U.S.C. Section 862a(d)(1)(A).

Guam Uniform Controlled Substance Act

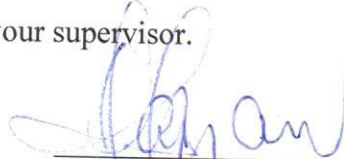
Section 102(6) of the federal controlled Substances Act, 21 U.S.C. Section 802(c).

Should you have any questions, please consult your supervisor.



MARI BLAS, MPA, MRC, CRC
BES Social Services Supervisor I

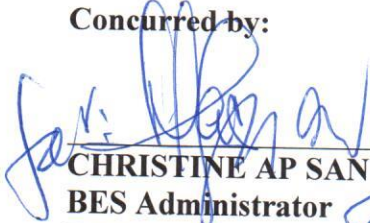
Date: 08/25/2023



DANILO L. BARRIDO
BES Program Coordinator IV

Date: 8/21/2023

Concurred by:



CHRISTINE AP SAN NICOLAS, BSW, MPA
BES Administrator

Date: 8/29/2023

Attachment:

Public Law 37-24