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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

United States of America,)	File No. 22-cr-223
)	(NEB/DTS)
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	
)	Courtroom 13W
Aimee Marie Bock(1),)	Minneapolis, Minnesota
Salim Ahmed Said(3),)	Thursday, February 20, 2025
)	9:06 a.m.
Defendants.)	
)	

BEFORE THE HONORABLE NANCY E. BRASEL
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT DISTRICT JUDGE

VOLUME VIII - JURY TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

Court Reporter: RENE E. A. ROGGE, RMR-CRR
United States Courthouse
300 South Fourth Street, Box 1005
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55415

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Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography;
Transcript produced by computer.

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1 9:06 a.m.

2 **IN OPEN COURT**

3 **(JURY PRESENT)**

4 THE COURT: Good morning, everyone. You may be
5 seated.

6 We're prepared for the cross-examination of
7 Agent Wilmer.

8 TRAVIS WILMER,

9 called on behalf of the government, was duly sworn, was
10 examined and testified as follows:

11 THE COURT: Mr. Udoibok.

12 MR. UDOIBOK: Thank you.

13 CROSS-EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

15 Q. Good morning, Officer.

16 A. Good morning.

17 Q. Excuse me. We met over the last few days, correct?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. I'm Kenneth Udoibok. I represent, excuse me, Aimee
20 Bock.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. It was a long day yesterday, and I'll try my best not to
23 spend too much time, but don't hold me to it.

24 A. Sounds good.

25 Q. All right. So prior to your involvement in this case,

1 how long had you been with the, is it FBI?

2 A. Correct. Roughly five months.

3 Q. Five months. And you were involved with searching the
4 Feeding Our Future building.

5 A. That's one of the locations I was at that day.

6 Q. I have something in my throat, Your Honor, an opportune
7 time for that.

8 So I want to go back, you know, to the last set of
9 exhibits that were discussed that may be fresh in your
10 memory, but before I do that, do you understand the process
11 at Feeding Our Future, based on your investigation, how a
12 claim comes into Feeding Our Future leading to the, the
13 money coming from MDE?

14 Do you know the process?

15 A. I don't know the day-to-day details of how they
16 conducted their business, but I think I have an
17 understanding at a high level of that process that took
18 place.

19 Q. All right. Do you know the difference between site ID
20 application and site application?

21 A. I don't understand a discernable difference between the
22 two.

23 Q. All right. And do you know how a claim goes to MDE from
24 Feeding Our Future?

25 A. It's submitted into CLiCS by the sponsoring organization

1 for their monthly reimbursement.

2 Q. During your investigation, did you acquire any knowledge
3 as to whether or not MDE would approve a site ID
4 application?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. What, what happens when a site ID application is made?

7 A. A request is made from the sponsoring organization for
8 that particular site. MDE looks at that application, and
9 then they provide a site ID to the sponsor, once the
10 application has been processed.

11 Q. All right. When they provide a site ID pursuant to the
12 site ID application, does that mean that the site ID or that
13 site has been approved to participate in the food program?

14 A. I think the short answer is yes.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. The sponsor is then allowed and able to submit monthly
17 reimbursements under that site ID which is tied to that site
18 application that they submitted.

19 Q. So based on your investigation, is it possible for a
20 site, having received an identification number, the site ID
21 application, a site, a number is being given, to submit
22 claims to MDE?

23 A. Yes. Once the sponsor has a site ID, then they are able
24 to submit monthly reimbursement claims through the CLiCS
25 system?

1 Q. Now, what is your understanding based on your
2 investigation, is a site application?

3 A. The site application that I'm aware of is the site ID
4 application, which is sent from the sponsoring organization
5 to MDE.

6 Q. All right. Excuse me. I want to just, just for
7 clarity --

8 Ms. Mallet, would you please up Exhibit V1. I
9 believe it's already in evidence. And it's regarding Safari
10 Restaurant.

11 You are familiar with Safari Restaurant?

12 A. I am.

13 Q. Is that yes?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Okay. And Exhibit V1 is what, if you know?

16 A. This is a document from MDE within the CLiCS system,
17 documenting the application for a site under the ID title
18 Distribution Site Safari Restaurant.

19 Q. So is this a site ID approval, or is it a site approval?

20 A. I don't understand the difference between the two that
21 you are asking about.

22 Q. All right. Nonetheless, Ms. Mallet, would you call out
23 the site information and site application status box.

24 So the site, is it correct that 90000184, excuse
25 me, 31 is the site ID for Safari Restaurant?

1 A. That is correct.

2 Q. All right. And the site application status, it says
3 "approve," correct?

4 A. Yes, it does.

5 Q. Now, based on your investigation, would Feeding Our
6 Future approve this site on this CLiCS system?

7 A. No.

8 Q. It would be MDE that would have approved it, correct?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. All right. Why don't you, Ms. Mallet, go to the next
11 page. Now, let's highlight 4 and 5.

12 Do you see the maximum daily participation,
13 correct?

14 A. I see it.

15 Q. What is it?

16 A. It's listed as 5,000.

17 Q. All right. Is that the maximum that Safari Restaurant
18 is allowed to produce or deliver?

19 A. According to this form, 5000 is listed as the maximum
20 daily participation that this site ID would be allowed to
21 submit for reimbursement.

22 Q. All right. And do you know how this arrangement gets to
23 MDE?

24 A. Submitted by the sponsoring organization, in this case
25 Feeding Our Future.

1 Q. Yes. And this would be prior to Safari Restaurant
2 delivering any food, correct?

3 A. Under this site ID.

4 Q. All right. Ms. Mallet, go back to page 1 and call out
5 the "approve."

6 Based on Exhibit V1 and CLiCS, MDE approved for
7 Safari to deliver maximum, excuse me, maximum being 5,000 as
8 of June 2020 to July 2020, correct?

9 A. That's what this form shows.

10 Q. All right. Now, if Safari sends Feeding Our Future meal
11 counts within 5,000, based on your experience and
12 investigation, Feeding Our Future would have no basis to
13 reject that claim?

14 A. I disagree.

15 Q. Based on what?

16 A. The sole role of the sponsor in this program is to
17 provide oversight to the sites, to verify that the sites are
18 operating the way that they should be, to verify that the
19 claims that are being submitted for reimbursement are true
20 and accurate.

21 Essentially MDE uses the sponsors as a third party
22 to conduct that oversight, therefore their whole job is to
23 make sure that every reimbursement claim they submit is true
24 and accurate.

25 If there's any reason that that 5,000 that's being

1 claimed is not in fact being served as claimed, it's on the
2 sponsor as their role and responsibility to ensure that
3 that's the case before they hit "submit" before they put it
4 into CLiCS reimbursement.

5 Q. All right. If there's any reason that comes to the
6 knowledge of Ms. Bock, correct?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. All right. And if Ms. Bock doesn't see any reason or
9 any information that there's malfeasance, you would expect
10 her not to do anything, correct?

11 A. Again, their only role is to make sure that every
12 reimbursement is true and accurate. Every reimbursement
13 that is submitted in CLiCS comes with a certification that
14 they attest it's true and accurate. It's their job to make
15 sure it is.

16 Burying your head in the sand and saying you
17 didn't see any evidence when it's being pointed out to you
18 by staff, by the state, you can't say that you didn't have
19 any reason to guess that these claims were not accurate.

20 Q. I realize your position. That's an opinion, isn't it?

21 A. Based on the facts that we have uncovered in this
22 investigation, I think that's the only reasonable
23 conclusion.

24 Q. And you said "they," right? You said "they," and who
25 are you referring to when you said "they"?

1 A. In this case, Feeding Our Future, Aimee Bock.

2 Q. How many employees, based on your investigation, worked
3 at Feeding Our Future?

4 A. It varied from time to time.

5 Q. Six to eight?

6 A. Probably more than that during the time period we're
7 looking at here.

8 Q. All right. And how many executive directors did Feeding
9 Our Future have?

10 A. One.

11 Q. One. How many managers did Feeding Our Future have?

12 A. You mean anyone in a managerial position, or what do you
13 mean by "manager"?

14 Q. Managerial position.

15 A. Probably a handful.

16 Q. A handful. Number five, six, seven?

17 A. I don't know the exact number.

18 Q. What about supervisors?

19 A. Again, multiple, but I don't know the exact number.

20 Q. And, and if an employee, a manager, engages in
21 unacceptable conduct, based on the investigation or your
22 experience, do you impute that bad conduct on Ms. Bock?

23 A. The issue at question here is the claims that were
24 submitted for reimbursement. Again, there's an attestation
25 certification for every single one of those that the person

1 submitting it is saying it's true and accurate and
2 certifying it as such, and Ms. Bock submitted those claims.
3 Q. All right. But the question I was asking, though, is,
4 If someone else is engaged in this misconduct within Feeding
5 Our Future, do you automatically blame the boss?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Okay.

8 Ms. Mallet, please pull up V22. It's already in
9 evidence, I believe. Call out the section with sponsor
10 site, the first. There you go.

11 This is site application, October 2020
12 through 2021? Do you see that?

13 A. I do.

14 Q. And it's for Stigma-Free International, Willmar correct?

15 A. That's correct.

16 Q. And that site application was approved by MDE at least
17 as shown by Exhibit 22, which is a government exhibit,
18 correct?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. All right. I want to direct you to --

21 Ms. Mallet, call up the second page and highlight
22 the fifth paragraph.

23 Officer, what is the maximum daily participation
24 cap for Stigma-Free, Willmar?

25 A. On this form, it's listed as 3,000.

1 Q. 3,000. All right. And let's go to page 3 and
2 highlight, call out, sorry, the column with breakfast.

3 What is the total estimated children to be served?

4 A. It lists 3,000 for breakfast on this form.

5 Q. All right. And then, Ms. Mallet, would you call out the
6 entire section that includes breakfast and lunch.

7 What does this site application entail? Do you
8 see breakfast 3,000, correct?

9 A. I see that.

10 Q. Lunch 3,000. It's highlighted a little bit, correct?

11 A. It's hard to discern the number.

12 Q. Ms. Mallet, why don't you call out the last box in the
13 summer food site, all that box. All right.

14 This is MDE internal application notes. Do you
15 see that?

16 A. I do.

17 Q. Do you understand what those notes are, based on your
18 investigation?

19 A. For the most part.

20 Q. What does it say?

21 A. These are internal notes that MDE staff make on the
22 applications to communicate when actions are taken.

23 Q. And it says, "Approved new site." There's an initial
24 KP?

25 A. That's the first note.

1 Q. And, "Remove stop pay." Do you see that?

2 A. I do.

3 Q. Ms. Mallet, please -- I don't want to repeat. Go to
4 page 3. Oh, that's page 3. Sorry. Fair enough.

5 Now, we talked about -- you talked about yesterday
6 and specifically Exhibit I20.

7 Ms. Mallet, would you call that out?

8 Just so I have an understanding, this was a folder
9 you found at Feeding Our Future, correct?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. And I believe you would agree with me that Feeding Our
12 Future -- Feeding Our Future or Ms. Bock did not know that
13 the government was going to execute a search warrant,
14 correct?

15 A. I'm not sure, but I would think that they probably
16 didn't know it was going to happen at that specific time.

17 Q. Yes. And I believe there was testimony that, about
18 270 boxes were removed from Feeding Our Future.

19 A. That sounds correct.

20 Q. And when you made electronic copies of the materials you
21 got from Feeding Our Future, this was one of the folders
22 that you got from Feeding Our Future.

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. So it was prearranged per sites, correct?

25 A. I --

1 Q. The materials were related to a particular site or
2 vendor.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Now, I want to walk you through -- many pages, you
5 testified at length about it.

6 And, Ms. Mallet, go to the second page.

7 This page, there was nothing. It was part of a
8 folder, correct?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. All right. Next page.

11 And then this you testified, it's a form that had
12 not been completed?

13 A. I did not testify concerning this form.

14 Q. Okay. But is it fully completed?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Okay. Now, go to the next page, Ms. Mallet. Keep
17 ongoing.

18 So I believe you testified that this was one of
19 the forms that you recovered relating to Waite Park, right?

20 A. I didn't testify about this specific form, but this
21 folder was recovered at the Feeding Our Future office, and
22 it appears that it's compiled based on the Waite Park site.

23 Q. All right. I believe you testified to page 31 of
24 exhibit, this exhibit.

25 Ms. Mallet, go to page 31.

1 You did testify about that this was Aimee Bock's
2 email on that form. Do you recall that testimony?

3 A. I do.

4 Q. All right. Do you know whether any application from
5 this form was sent to MDE?

6 A. This email would indicate that something had been
7 submitted, because a site ID was granted.

8 Q. Okay. And you read this page, didn't you?

9 A. I did not read it. I spoke to what it said.

10 Q. All right. We'll see what it says.

11 Ms. Mallet, go to the last, last -- there you go.

12 Officer, would you read that to yourself.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. Now, for the benefit of the jury, why don't you read it
15 aloud?

16 A. "The site ID is 9000019069. This site has not been
17 approved yet for any program participation. To apply for
18 child nutrition program, please follow directions in how to
19 add a new site to the application in the CLiCS user guide.
20 You will not be able to claim reimbursement for this site
21 until the site is approved. If you have any questions
22 please contact FNS at 1(800)366-8922 or (651)582-8526 or via
23 email at fns.administrator@state.mn.us."

24 Q. Officer, why didn't you read that paragraph while you
25 were testifying yesterday?

1 A. I was not asked to read that paragraph when I testified
2 yesterday.

3 Q. Thank you. I want to direct you to Exhibit I1. You
4 testified to that yesterday.

5 A. I believe that's correct.

6 Q. Call out the, the email address and the attachment.

7 You would agree with me that this is an email from
8 Ms. Bock to MDE, the Financial Nutrition Services? Would
9 you agree?

10 A. I would agree.

11 Q. And the specific employee is Kendra Pace, correct?

12 A. That is one of the email addresses it went to.

13 Q. And the subject is site ID request for Waite Park; is
14 that correct?

15 A. That is correct.

16 Q. Along with that is site identification, address change
17 for Stigma-Free International, correct?

18 A. Waite Park, correct.

19 Q. I mean, what does the address say?

20 A. Stigma-Free International, Waite Park.

21 Q. All right. Okay. There's an address change.

22 Go to the next page, please.

23 Call out from department, Minnesota Department of
24 Education to the site.

25 All right. Is this a Minnesota Department of

1 Education form, correct?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. And it's not a form corrected by, created by Feeding Our
4 Future, correct?

5 A. That is correct.

6 Q. So go to the next page.

7 And the sponsoring organization is established,
8 correct?

9 A. Feeding Our Future.

10 Q. Feeding Our Future. The site program participation is
11 what?

12 A. They are requesting to participate in CACFP, as well as
13 SFSP.

14 Q. All right. Next page. Okay. This is the last page.

15 Now, this site ID application is different from
16 site application that we reviewed in Exhibit V1 and 2, V1
17 and 22, I believe, correct?

18 A. V1 and V22, those are not applications that are
19 submitted. That is after an application has been submitted
20 how it is documented in the CLiCS system.

21 Q. Yes, but my point to you is, the site ID is different.
22 Site ID application is different from site application,
23 correct?

24 A. If by "site application" you are referring to the screen
25 in CLiCS, then, yes, that's two different things.

1 Q. All right. Did you, what -- did you notice that the
2 maximum capacity of delivery was stated in this site
3 application?

4 A. On those exhibits from CLiCS, there was a cap that was
5 listed.

6 Q. All right. On this exhibit, this site application, site
7 ID, to get an ID, the maximum capacity is not stated,
8 correct?

9 A. It is not included on this form.

10 Q. I want to direct you to Exhibit J27. Now, do you see
11 there's an email from Stigma-Free to claims or Feeding Our
12 Future claims?

13 A. I see that.

14 Q. All right. And there's an attachment. What are those
15 attachments?

16 A. Based on the descriptions here, it looks like a meal
17 count and invoices.

18 Q. Meal count and invoices. And are those submission PDF?

19 A. They are.

20 Q. All right. Officer, what is the difference between PDF
21 and native form?

22 A. PDF is a type of file. I don't know what you mean by
23 "native form."

24 Q. Can you alter a PDF?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. You can. With a program, right?

2 A. With appropriate software, yes.

3 Q. Okay. Do you have any information that J27 was altered
4 by Feeding Our Future in any way?

5 A. I don't understand the question.

6 Q. Do you have any information that a PDF submitted by
7 Stigma-Free to claims at Feeding Our Future was altered in
8 any way?

9 A. I don't have any information whether it was or wasn't.

10 Q. Okay. Let's go to page 6.

11 All right. You testified earlier about invoices,
12 these invoices. Do you know who those invoices, this
13 invoice was sent to?

14 A. This invoice was attached to an email that went to
15 claims at Feeding Our Future.

16 Q. All right. And it was, it was a PDF submission,
17 correct?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. Now, go to page 7. Call out the Hormud Meat along
20 with -- all right.

21 That's an invoice from the grocery that is billed
22 to Stigma-Free, correct?

23 A. That's correct. That's what it purports to be.

24 Q. And this invoice was submitted to Feeding Our Future.

25 Is that your testimony?

1 A. It was attached to an email sent to Feeding Our Future,
2 correct.

3 Q. All right. And let's go to, I believe there's a page,
4 you testified to page 44.

5 And this roster was also submitted to Feeding Our
6 Future claims by whom, by who? Sorry.

7 A. This came from the Stigma-Free email account, and it was
8 submitted in support of a reimbursement claim to Feeding Our
9 Future.

10 Q. All right. Now, based on your investigation, do you
11 know whether MDE required a roster?

12 A. I believe at some point that became required. However,
13 throughout the entirety of the investigation that was not
14 always required documentation.

15 Q. Do you know based on your investigation, do you know
16 whether any other sponsor required this, required a roster?

17 A. I can't speak to requirements of every single sponsor
18 within the Federal Child Nutrition Program.

19 Q. All right. And I believe you testified that this roster
20 was also a PDF file sent to Feeding Our Future claims.

21 A. I believe the email attachment we just looked at was a
22 PDF.

23 Q. Now, do you know -- I don't know if I asked you this.
24 Do you know how many employees at Feeding Our Future worked
25 in claims?

1 A. I do not know the exact number.

2 Q. Do you know whether Ms. Bock herself processed claims?

3 A. She submitted them for reimbursement.

4 Q. She submitted to reimbursement, but before then based on
5 your investigation, the emails going to claims would go to
6 claims, claims employees, correct?

7 A. I believe she had access to that email account.

8 Q. I realize -- she's the boss. She may have access to it.
9 I don't know.

10 But my question is, Your investigation led you to
11 believe that there are claims employees at Feeding Our
12 Future?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. And you don't know how many?

15 A. I don't know the exact number.

16 Q. And things are processed in claims by someone. Then
17 ultimately will get to Ms. Bock at CLiCS, correct?

18 A. I believe at a high level, a process --

19 Q. Yes.

20 A. -- similar to that takes place.

21 Q. But based on your investigation, I know you don't know
22 the internal workings of Feeding Our Future, but you know --
23 do you know what is Monday.com?

24 A. Sorry. What was that last part?

25 Q. Monday.com, Monday.com?

1 A. I've heard of it.

2 Q. Yes. At Feeding Our Future, correct?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. Do you know what Monday.com is?

5 A. My understanding is that that is a software program that
6 was used by Feeding Our Future employees to communicate
7 notes and things of that nature.

8 Q. Notes and things about what?

9 A. Things that they were doing at work.

10 Q. Claims?

11 A. I would assume that's one of the things. I don't know
12 for detail.

13 Q. What about, did you -- did your investigation lead you
14 to know the existence of CenterPilot?

15 A. That's another software program used by Feeding Our
16 Future employees.

17 Q. To do what?

18 A. Various things that were completed there as work.

19 Q. All right.

20 A. I don't know the full extent of everything they used it
21 for.

22 Q. And also multiple employees have access to the
23 CenterPilot, correct?

24 A. I don't know exactly who did.

25 Q. Now, we get to CLiCS. And what is CLiCS?

1 A. CLiCS is the software system used by MDE to submit and
2 process reimbursement claims for the Federal Child Nutrition
3 Program.

4 Q. And is not a Feeding Our Future creation, correct?

5 A. It is not.

6 Q. All right. And what, so that is how claims are
7 submitted to MDE, correct?

8 A. Through CLiCS.

9 Q. Yeah, through CLiCS. Do you know how many people at
10 Feeding Our Future had access to CLiCS?

11 A. Aimee Bock had access and submitted claims on behalf of
12 Feeding Our Future.

13 Q. I realize that, but do you know how many people? Do you
14 know? You don't have to know.

15 A. I do not know the exact number. My understanding is
16 that she submitted all the claims.

17 Q. She submitted all the claims?

18 A. Through CLiCS for reimbursement.

19 Q. But more than one, you would agree with me that more
20 than one person at Feeding Our Future, maybe not many, but
21 more than one had access to CLiCS?

22 A. I do not know that to be true.

23 Q. All right. Thank you.

24 Ms. Mallet, why don't you pull up J17.

25 This is an email that you testified to about from

1 Stigma-Free to claims, correct?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. And do you know what this email was about?

4 A. This email appears to contain attachments to support a
5 reimbursement claim for Stigma-Free, St. Cloud for the month
6 of October 2021.

7 Q. All right. I want to direct you to page 102. It's a
8 large document. Just a second. Do you know, yes, do you
9 know --

10 Ms. Mallet, go to the top and highlight the site.

11 Do you know who wrote this site Stigma-Free
12 International, St. Cloud on that document?

13 A. It appears to be typed in. Based on the emails we
14 walked through yesterday, I think we described pretty
15 clearly that it appears to have been filled in by fellow
16 defendants in this case, likely a part of TFS and other
17 individuals at 2722 Park prior to submitting.

18 Q. But you don't know who they --

19 A. I don't know the exact person, no.

20 Q. All right. Let's go to 14. Highlight. That's another
21 email.

22 All right. That's from TFS?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. To Farhiyo?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. All right. Now call out -- take that out and call out
2 the next -- no. Go up from. Can you -- there you go.

3 Now down further. Sorry. I'm driving terribly.

4 With the email address. There you go.

5 MS. MALLETT: Okay.

6 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

7 Q. What is that request?

8 A. "Can you write Stigma-Free/North Star/St. Cloud."

9 Q. Who wrote this?

10 A. This email is from a TFS employee account --

11 Q. So he's asking an employee where --

12 A. -- at TFS.

13 Q. To write in Stigma-Free?

14 A. Amongst other things, yes.

15 Q. Is that email from Ms. Bock?

16 A. It is not from Ms. Bock.

17 Q. All right. Let's go to J13.

18 This is the same or a different one from TFS?

19 A. The "from" is the same email account. It's going to a
20 different email account than the previous one we looked at.

21 Q. And what does this say?

22 A. "Can you write Stigma-Free International, St. Cloud
23 where it says the site on each paper please."

24 Q. All right. Is it from Ms. Bock?

25 A. It is not.

1 Q. Now, so the jury doesn't get confused, looking at J14,
2 J13, are you saying there's any wrongdoing in writing those
3 names in?

4 A. As an individual puzzle piece, that's not in of itself
5 wrong, but it is further evidence that documents are being
6 fabricated to support these claims.

7 Q. And when you use the word "fabrication," it's the
8 writing the name of an existing site to an application, to a
9 device. What's fabrication about that?

10 A. Because forms as part of these claims are supposed to be
11 documented in realtime to accurately show the number of
12 meals being claimed, but what we see time and again is they
13 are being done after the fact by an off-site party --

14 Q. All right.

15 A. -- to complete them before they are being submitted for
16 reimbursement.

17 Q. But nonetheless, it didn't come from Ms. Bock?

18 A. It did not come from Ms. Bock.

19 Q. And let's go to J10.

20 This is another email, correct?

21 A. Correct, another email.

22 Q. What does it say?

23 A. The body of the email says, "Here is what you have
24 requested, Farhia. Leet me know if you have any questions
25 or concerns."

1 Q. Is that a claims -- whose writing to who?

2 A. This is from stigma-freemnl@gmail.com to
3 claims@feedingourfuturemn.org.

4 Q. And let's see the body of the document.

5 And what does -- it says what?

6 A. "Here is what you have requested, Farhia. Let me know
7 if you have any questions or concerns."

8 Q. Let's go to the first page.

9 And what are those?

10 A. These are Feeding Our Future meal count sheets for a
11 site not labeled, for the month of September of 2021.

12 Q. All right. And is that communication with Ms. Bock?

13 A. This email correspondence is sent to the claims at
14 Feeding Our Future address.

15 Q. My question is, is it to Ms. Bock.

16 A. She is one of the people who had access to this and
17 received this.

18 Q. But, nonetheless, you have no information that Ms. Bock
19 receive that email, do you?

20 A. Whether or not she opened and read it, I cannot say for
21 certain.

22 Q. Thank you. Let's go to J5.

23 You testified to this yesterday. And what is
24 this?

25 A. This is an email correspondence from

1 stigma-freemnl@gmail.com to claims@feedingourfuturemn.org
2 and suad@feedingourfuturemn.org.

3 Q. All right. And I'm not going to belabor you about it,
4 but nonetheless, this email is not directed to Ms. Bock
5 specifically, correct?

6 A. It is to an email account that she had access to. It
7 doesn't say her name in it, but --

8 Q. And when you say, "She had access," you don't have any
9 information that she had access to it, do you?

10 A. I do. Based on review of numerous emails through this
11 investigation, it appears, it is apparent that she had
12 access to claims@feedingourfuturemn.org.

13 Q. All right. So do you know whether she, Ms. Bock,
14 routinely went into claims as part of her job?

15 A. I do not know the frequency at which she opened emails
16 in that account.

17 Q. Okay. Let's go to J4.

18 You testified about this yesterday. Do you
19 remember?

20 A. I'm familiar with this email.

21 Q. All right. And again what is this email about?

22 A. This is subject: Meal Count 2021 for March, April and
23 May.

24 Q. And, again, this email is not sent to Ms. Bock, was it?

25 A. This email correspondence is not sent to Ms. Bock.

1 Q. All right. Let's go to J34.

2 And this is Stigma-Free, St. Cloud, correct?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. And let's go to the second page, just leaf through it a
5 bit.

6 And it's an after-school meal count, correct?

7 A. Yes. This is a Feeding Our Future meal count for the
8 Stigma-Free, St. Cloud site.

9 Q. All right. And I believe you testified earlier that
10 before you send a claim for reimbursement, the site
11 application would have been approved, correct?

12 A. There would have had to be a site ID request that was
13 generated by MDE in order to process any claims for
14 reimbursement from the sponsor.

15 Q. And the maximum count would have been approved?

16 A. Most site IDs had a maximum listed on the form within
17 CLiCS.

18 Q. I think you are conflating things, Officer. There's a
19 difference between site ID, number, application and site
20 application, correct?

21 A. I'm not sure of the discernment that you are making
22 between the two. My understanding is that sponsors submit
23 requests for site IDs for a given site for a given program
24 for a given year.

25 Once that site ID request has been generated, they

1 then use that particular site ID to submit claims for
2 reimbursement.

3 The form that you accessed within CLiCS, as
4 labeled in most of the V exhibits, although it says
5 application in the corner, that is just documentation that a
6 site ID has been generated for that particular program and
7 year within the CLiCS system for that site ID number.

8 Q. But at what point is the maximum daily participation cap
9 is introduced in the application process?

10 A. That number that you are referencing is tied to that
11 site ID number within CLiCS.

12 Q. All right. And so that number has to be approved by
13 MDE, correct?

14 A. I believe so.

15 Q. All right. I know you don't work at MDE, but based on
16 the investigation, do you know what happens if you exceed
17 that cap? Is it will be rejected, correct?

18 A. No.

19 Q. It will not? It will just be paid?

20 A. I have seen throughout this investigation site
21 application forms as the ones you are referencing in CLiCS
22 that list one number. However, there are reimbursement
23 claims for that site ID exceed that number that are paid
24 out.

25 When reimbursements are submitted from the

1 sponsoring organization to MDE, as has been described in
2 previous testimony, there's not an additional approval. The
3 system pays the claim as it's processed, because the
4 expectations that the sponsor has reviewed that claim for
5 accuracy under that site ID.

6 Q. So what then is the -- based on your investigation, your
7 testimony now is MDE did not have any way of enforcing the
8 agreed cap, daily cap.

9 Is that your testimony?

10 MR. JACOBS: Objection, Your Honor. That
11 misstates his testimony.

12 THE COURT: Overruled.

13 You may answer.

14 THE WITNESS: That's not my exact testimony. They
15 had things they tried to put in place to stop claims that
16 they suspected were fraudulent, as has been outlined in
17 previous testimony throughout this trial.

18 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

19 Q. Well, we'll come back to that. So let me understand
20 regarding, regarding just take Safari Restaurant. Is it
21 your testimony that Safari Restaurant exceeded its daily
22 cap?

23 A. Can you reference a specific time? Are you talking
24 about anytime?

25 Q. Anytime. Anytime.

1 A. We've certainly seen meal counts for 6,000 meals per day
2 which were approved and paid out.

3 Q. All right.

4 A. And when I say "approved," I mean by the sponsor, not
5 MDE.

6 Q. Wait a minute. So what you are telling this jury is,
7 Feeding Our Future is the one responsible for approving
8 claims?

9 A. They're the ones responsible for reviewing the claims,
10 making sure it is accurate prior to submitting it for
11 reimbursement.

12 Q. But who approves it? Who approves the claims? MDE has
13 no role at all?

14 A. As has been previously described, MDE grants a site ID.
15 It is then on the sponsor to ensure that any claims
16 submitted for reimbursement is accurate. So when you use
17 the word "approve," to me that role and responsibility is
18 the sponsor in this program.

19 Q. All right. Let's go to Exhibit V22, just for clarity.

20 Call out the approved section. The approved
21 section.

22 Approval effective date is October 2020, 2020 to
23 2021, correct?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. Who approved it?

1 A. This form documents that MDE has approved Feeding Our
2 Future to submit claims under this site ID.

3 Q. All right. And then what is the daily maximum -- go to
4 page 2.

5 What is the daily maximum?

6 A. It's listed as 3,000.

7 Q. All right. Who approved 3,000 daily maximum?

8 A. MDE has allowed Feeding Our Future to submit claims up
9 to 3,000 under this site ID according to this form.

10 Q. All right. I know you don't want to use the word
11 "approve," but is it fair to say that MDE approve, as at
12 least related to Exhibit V22?

13 A. They approve claims to be submitted under that site ID.

14 Q. All right.

15 A. Not the claims themselves.

16 Q. Okay. Let's go to 33. This is a folder that you
17 obtained a digital copy for Stigma-Free International,
18 St. Cloud, isn't it?

19 A. Correct. This is a digital version of a folder that was
20 obtained from a search warrant.

21 Q. Based on your understanding, what do you discern to be
22 those markings on the left and the word "summer pilot"?

23 A. I would assume this means that for Stigma-Free
24 International, St. Cloud someone has put an X next to
25 attendance May 2021 to document that they're -- I would

1 expect are attendance forms that they have seen related to
2 this.

3 Q. Do you know who collated this folder?

4 A. I do not know who originally put it together.

5 Q. All right. Go to the first page.

6 MS. MALLETT: This is the first page.

7 MR. UDOIBOK: Yeah, second page, rather.

8 And would you agree with me that this is a series
9 of documents maintained by Feeding Our Future that you, you
10 know, obtained pursuant to the search warrant?

11 THE WITNESS: I think that's correct.

12 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

13 Q. All right. Go to page, go to page 4, please.

14 What is this? No. Page 4. Page 4. Yes.

15 A. This is a form. Handwritten in is Stigma-Free
16 International, St. Cloud, and then someone has checked
17 receipts, menu, attendance. I assume that's what that
18 abbreviation stands for.

19 And then it says, "On CP," again which again
20 assuming would mean on CenterPilot, and then there is
21 another notation, "Missing receipts," as well as a notation
22 for \$264,000.

23 Q. That is the internal working of Feeding Our Future,
24 right, that this particular claim is missing receipts,
25 correct?

1 A. I don't know who wrote it, but that's what appears to be
2 notated here.

3 Q. All right. Go to page 10.

4 You testified to this meal count, correct?

5 A. I believe so.

6 Q. And you agree with me that this is not a creation for
7 Feeding Our Future, correct?

8 A. I do not believe it to be.

9 Q. All right.

10 A. The form is a Feeding Our Future form, but it appears
11 that purportedly someone at the site completed this to
12 document meals prepared and served.

13 Q. And in fact --

14 Call out food temperature, as well as the number
15 of nonreimbursable, incomplete or damaged materials. That's
16 at the bottom. There you go.

17 And so Feeding Our Future received this document,
18 correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And included in number of nonreimbursable, incomplete or
21 damaged meals. Do you see those numbers?

22 A. Yes, very small numbers.

23 Q. And it also gives food temperature. Is that what it is?

24 A. That's what is purported to be listed there.

25 Q. And this document, I'm not sure. Is it attested to by

1 two people, or is it just one person?

2 A. Given that the initials match the name listed above,
3 it's possible it's just one person.

4 Q. It's possible. But it is, it's likely that it could be
5 two people?

6 A. There are two areas to attest to. In this case it
7 appears that the same person completed both.

8 Q. Could you call out this, the initial section and the
9 signature?

10 What does the initial, initials of person taking
11 daily count?

12 A. That is AO in every blank.

13 Q. All right. And then next to it it says the site
14 supervisor.

15 A. You mean below that?

16 Q. Yes.

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. Does that form call for two people?

19 A. It does not say whether it has to be two people or one
20 person.

21 Q. Is it possible it could be two people?

22 A. Possible it could be.

23 Q. Let's go to 31.

24 This is another folder that you acquired from
25 Feeding Our Future pursuant to your search warrant?

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. And you testified, and I assume you don't know who wrote
3 those markings, correct?

4 A. I do not.

5 Q. Let's go to the next page, please.

6 Do you know who wrote this, the March 21st and
7 May 21st?

8 A. I do not.

9 Q. Next page.

10 Do you know who wrote this Stigma-Free
11 International, March 21st? Do you know who wrote it?

12 A. I do not.

13 Q. Based on your investigation, do you have any facts that
14 Feeding Our Future wrote those things in?

15 A. Given that this is an internal Feeding Our Future form
16 and it's review of the monthly claim packet, I think the
17 only reasonable conclusion is that a Feeding Our Future
18 staff member completed this form after receiving the
19 supporting documentation.

20 Q. That's the next page. Do you believe Feeding Our Future
21 staff created this document?

22 A. I think it's a Feeding Our Future template that was
23 created. Whether or not it was filled in by them I think is
24 not as clear.

25 Q. You have seen this Feeding Our Future template, correct?

1 A. I have.

2 Q. And is it fair to say that Feeding Our Future gives a
3 matter of forms to assist sites to document?

4 A. That's fair.

5 Q. All right. And whose signature is this?

6 A. It's hard to discern, but I believe it's Ahmed Omar's.

7 Q. All right. Did you notice that, did you notice that
8 Ms. Bock's email in these forms were already printed in?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. Right? Right? Okay. Is that a yes?

11 A. Yes, her email is listed at the top of the forms under
12 email.

13 Q. Do you know whether it's prior to completing or after
14 completing the forms?

15 A. In this instance for this particular form, I do not know
16 for certain if it's prior or after.

17 Q. All right. But it is your testimony that this meal
18 count was not a Feeding Our Future creation, correct?

19 A. The template is a Feeding Our Future creation.

20 Q. But the notations are not, correct?

21 A. I do not believe them to be.

22 Q. All right. Thank you.

23 I want to direct you to J2. What is this?

24 A. This is an email correspondence chain.

25 Q. All right. Now, let's start from the back, from the

1 bottom, correct?

2 A. Okay.

3 Q. Ms. Mallet, so that the witness understands what he's
4 testifying to, let's go to the second page. Right.

5 You know, the second page, there's no message in
6 there. Just a signatory plate, block?

7 A. That is correct.

8 Q. Okay. Let's go to page 1.

9 So what does it say? What does that email say?

10 Call out a, call out the email from Ms. Bock.
11 Make it a little bigger so that the jury will be able to
12 see. Down further.

13 So Ms. Bock is writing to who?

14 A. What appears to be Feeding Our Future office staff.

15 Q. There you go. Now what does the rest of the email say?

16 A. "The site's application has moved to Step 2. They have
17 not started serving. Please train them and have them start.
18 They can serve supper and snack and will need to take
19 attendance."

20 Q. That's instruction from Ms. Bock to staff?

21 A. That's what it appears to be.

22 Q. All right. Does that instruction read to you that
23 Ms. Bock is asking her staff to engage in any unlawful
24 conduct?

25 A. No.

1 Q. No. All right. Then what's the response from her
2 staff?

3 A. That under the name and address listed they don't find
4 nothing, that that address referenced a Savers Donation
5 Center.

6 Q. And then what does it say which site that is?

7 A. He said this belongs to Suad.

8 Q. Clarity right?

9 A. Sorry. What was that?

10 Q. Ms. Bock provides clarity to the site, correct?

11 A. I believe this is an attempt at clarity.

12 Q. All right. But does that email says process the claim
13 anyhow?

14 A. It doesn't tell them not to. It tells them to start
15 serving food.

16 Q. Well, wait a minute. Go back to --

17 A. That's the original message.

18 Q. It says -- call out this site application. Call out.

19 It says, "This site's application moved up to
20 Step 2. If they have not started serving, please train them
21 and have them start."

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. All right. "They can serve supper and snack and will
24 need to take attendance."

25 A. Yes, that's what it says.

1 Q. Thank you.

2 MR. UDOIBOK: Your Honor, I'm going to take a
3 moment. My battery is dead.

4 THE COURT: Your battery? Oh, yes.

5 MR. UDOIBOK: Let's go to J1. What is this?

6 THE WITNESS: This is an email correspondence from
7 Aimee Bock to MDE.

8 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

9 Q. And what is the request?

10 A. This is a site ID request for Stigma-Free International,
11 St. Cloud.

12 Q. Thank you.

13 And the attachment is what?

14 A. It's an MDE CLiCS form for that site ID request.

15 Q. And what, what is the correspondence to MDE? What does,
16 what does it say?

17 A. She's notifying them that she's submitting a new site ID
18 request.

19 Q. When you say "them," who?

20 A. MDE.

21 Q. All right. Let's go to the next page. Call out the
22 box, the box indicating the request.

23 What is it?

24 A. New site ID request.

25 Q. All right. And it's regarding Stigma-Free, St. Cloud,

1 correct?

2 A. That is correct.

3 Q. Go to the next page. The site program participation.

4 Do you see that?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Go back to the first page.

7 Officer, do you see, do you see the difference
8 between a site ID application and site application?

9 A. I still don't understand the determination that you are
10 using between the two. I've explained the way that I see a
11 difference between the forms we've looked at. I don't know
12 that --

13 I believe there's a miscommunication between
14 myself and you on the wording there.

15 Q. Maybe. Maybe. But do you see daily maximum count on
16 Exhibit J1?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Okay. Let's go to W34. You testified to this earlier.
19 And whose account is this?

20 A. This is a business account at Wells Fargo for Olive
21 Management Incorporated.

22 Q. All right. Go to the next page. Just leaf through it a
23 bit.

24 Was this exhibit -- I just want to make sure
25 because you didn't go through every page, and I suppose you

1 have gone through it. Was there any amount of money, even a
2 penny, given to Ms. Bock?

3 A. Directly from this account?

4 Q. Yes.

5 A. To her personal account or to an account that she
6 controls?

7 Q. To her personal account.

8 A. Not that I'm aware of.

9 Q. Okay. Thank you.

10 Let's go to E10.

11 This email is between who?

12 A. Abdikadir Mohamud and Salim Said.

13 Q. All right. And I believe, go to page 2.

14 What is this?

15 A. This is an uncompleted consulting agreement between
16 Olive Management, Salim Said -- I mean Salim Limited.

17 Q. Is Exhibit E10 in any way connected to Ms. Bock?

18 A. Not directly.

19 Q. She's not part of the agreement, consulting agreement,
20 is she?

21 A. She is not.

22 Q. All right. Thank you.

23 Let's go to W34.

24 What account is this?

25 A. This is a Wells Fargo business account for Olive

1 Management Incorporated.

2 Q. It's about 371 pages. Would you like me to go through
3 them? No.

4 A. That's up to you.

5 Q. No. All right. Is that account Ms. Bock's?

6 A. It is not.

7 Q. Okay. Let's go to E8.

8 I believe E8 related to the purchase of a
9 building, correct?

10 A. This is an email correspondence chain relating to the
11 prospective purchase of a commercial property.

12 Q. Did Ms. Bock purchase that property?

13 A. She did not.

14 Q. Did she have any ownership interest?

15 A. Not that I'm aware of.

16 Q. All right. Let's go to E12. This is an email between
17 TFS and Mr. Salah, correct?

18 A. That is correct.

19 Q. Again, nothing to do with Ms. Bock personally, correct?

20 A. This is to generate documents that were ultimately
21 submitted to Feeding Our Future. So I think it did have
22 something to do with her company. Was it sent to her
23 directly? No.

24 Q. All right. Let's make sure. Look at page 2. All
25 right.

1 That's an invoice, correct?

2 A. It is.

3 Q. Is that invoice sent to, from looking at the page 2, is
4 it sent to Ms. Bock?

5 A. It ultimately gets sent to Feeding Our Future.

6 Q. All right. My question was, Was it sent to Ms. Bock?

7 A. In this email, no.

8 Q. All right. Let's move to 3.

9 Is that also connected to Ms. Bock personally?

10 A. It is in support of a claim that she submitted through
11 CLiCS. This email was not sent directly to her.

12 Q. Okay. Let's go to E21.

13 Now, that's an email communication between TFS and
14 Mr. Salah, correct?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. What is this regarding?

17 A. Invoices to support reimbursement claims for the Federal
18 Child Nutrition Program.

19 Q. And it's a PDF attachment, correct?

20 A. Two PDFs are attached.

21 Q. All right. Go to the next page, Ms. Mallet.

22 And this invoice is between who and who?

23 A. It purports to be between Hormud Meat and Grocery
24 Incorporated and Olive Management Incorporated.

25 Q. All right. Go to the next page.

1 What is that?

2 A. Again, an invoice that purports to be between Hormud
3 Meat and Grocery Incorporated and Olive Management
4 Incorporated.

5 Q. Is Exhibit E12 related in any way to Ms. Bock?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. How?

8 A. This is an invoice to support payments to a vendor which
9 she authorized to participate in reimbursement claims that
10 she submitted.

11 Q. My question is, Was this email, this three pages of this
12 email, as it is sent to Ms. Bock?

13 A. Not sent directly to her via this correspondence.

14 Q. All right. Thank you.

15 I think I want to talk about E12, E21. Sorry.

16 MS. MALLETT: E21?

17 MR. UDOIBOK: Yes. It's not coming up.

18 MS. MALLETT: It will in a minute.

19 MR. UDOIBOK: Okay. Go to E28.

20 MR. THOMPSON: Which one? Do you want me to pull
21 it up?

22 MR. UDOIBOK: Yes.

23 (Counsel confer)

24 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

25 Q. Officer, you testified about E21. What is that?

1 A. Another email correspondence from an individual to the
2 TFS Auditors account.

3 Q. Thank you. And take out the callout.

4 Is there a next page to that? Yes.

5 Included in E21 is a roster, correct?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. Do you know whether that roster was sent to Ms. Bock?

8 A. I believe this roster was submitted to Feeding Our
9 Future in support of a reimbursement claim. It was not sent
10 directly to her via this email correspondence that we're
11 looking at.

12 Q. But you don't have any specific information that
13 Ms. Bock reviewed that roster, do you?

14 A. Whether or not she reviewed it, but prior to processing
15 the claim, I cannot say for certain.

16 Q. All right. How long did it take for you to figure out
17 the infrequency of the data, the ages, in this roster?

18 A. I don't understand the question.

19 Q. Now, you -- let me make sure. You testified that it
20 was, at least from my notes, you use the word "significant
21 fabrication" of names. Do you recall that?

22 A. It sounds in line with my testimony that I recall.

23 Q. All right. So after you took into custody the 270 boxes
24 of Feeding Our Future --

25 A. Mm-hmm.

1 Q. -- and -- is that a yes?

2 A. Yes, we did receive lots of boxes of information from
3 the Feeding Our Future search warrant.

4 Q. And then you processed those documents?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. And at some point you discovered the range of the
7 roster, correct?

8 A. Throughout our investigation, we come across many
9 rosters from various sites.

10 Q. And then you compare them to school districts, right?

11 A. We have compared a lot of them to school districts.

12 Q. And then I believe you testified that the kids from the
13 roster looked like they never traveled or missed school. Is
14 that --

15 A. Just at first glance of many of these roster sheets,
16 it's apparent there's an extremely high rate of attendance
17 for all students included.

18 Q. So how, how long did you, how long did it take you to
19 get to that conclusion?

20 A. Just looking at the sheet I come to that conclusion.

21 Q. Based on your experience?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Oh, you went to MIT, right?

24 A. I did.

25 Q. That's a pretty good school.

1 How many agents were involved in this case?

2 A. There have been a variety of case agents throughout the
3 several years we've conducted this investigation.

4 Q. I believe you testified that agents came from Miami
5 even?

6 A. For the particular task of completing numerous search
7 warrants simultaneously.

8 Q. Like how many?

9 A. I don't remember the exact number.

10 Q. 20?

11 A. It's fair. Not just from Miami, but from across the
12 country to execute those search warrants. They were not a
13 part of reviewing documents afterwards.

14 Q. All right. And is it your testimony that at first
15 glance, Ms. Bock ought to have determined that this list was
16 fraudulent?

17 A. I don't think determined. I think at first glance,
18 given her experience at working at daycares for many years,
19 she would have seen that this was suspicious on its face,
20 which should have led her to do further inquiry and ask for
21 additional --

22 What those particular steps are of her additional
23 inquiry, that's her responsibility as a sponsor, but I think
24 it's fair to say that based on her experience at first
25 glance she should have had suspicions of rosters similar to

1 this.

2 Q. Are you sure this roster was sent to Ms. Bock?

3 A. This particular one I can't say for certain sitting here
4 without further verification, but we've seen numerous ones
5 extremely similar that were.

6 Q. Okay. But Ms. Bock did not go to MIT?

7 A. Not to my knowledge.

8 Q. So let's go to E7?

9 MR. THOMPSON: Do you want me to do it or
10 Ms. Mallet?

11 THE COURT: Actually, what we'll do right now is
12 give you a minute and take our morning break.

13 MR. UDOIBOK: Okay.

14 THE COURT: So we'll come back at 10:45.

15 All rise for the jury.

16 10:31 a.m.

17 **IN OPEN COURT**

18 **(JURY NOT PRESENT)**

19 THE COURT: All right, everyone. 10:45. We're in
20 recess.

21 (Recess taken at 10:32 a.m. till 10:47 p.m.)

22 10:47 a.m.

23 **IN OPEN COURT**

24 **(JURY PRESENT)**

25 THE COURT: You may all be seated.

1 And, Mr. Udoibok, you may continue.

2 MR. UDOIBOK: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

4 Q. Officer, we'll continue where we left off.

5 Ms. Mallet, would you call up E7, please.

6 That's an email you testified to between TFS and
7 Eidleh?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. And who is Eidleh?

10 A. He is a Feeding Our Future employee.

11 Q. And this email and the attachment was sent to
12 Mr. Eidleh, correct?

13 A. After being sent to claims at Feeding Our Future, yes.

14 Q. And let's go to the next page.

15 Is that a summer meal count clicker?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. And presumably the number of meals received and prepared
18 was pre-approved by the site agreement, correct?

19 A. I don't recall the exact number for this one, but prior
20 to the submission of this claim, there would have been a
21 site ID that was granted, and within CLiCS there would
22 likely be a cap listed attached to that site ID.

23 Q. Now, regarding attendance, was attendance log always
24 required in the food program?

25 A. Do you mean an attendance log with specific names or

1 just attendance as a number?

2 Q. Attendance with specific names and ages.

3 A. Was not always required throughout the time frame we
4 investigated.

5 Q. And there were waivers, right, for attendance, any
6 number of attendance, correct?

7 A. I'm not going to speak to the exact nature of every
8 single waiver, but the requirements to support individual
9 claims is something that varied over time.

10 Q. All right. I would assume that as part of the
11 investigation you spoke to MDE staff, correct, in the food
12 nutrition program?

13 A. We have.

14 Q. And you also have conducted documentary investigation of
15 Feeding Our Future documents, correct?

16 A. Yes, we have.

17 Q. And you have come across sites that Feeding Our Future
18 terminated, correct?

19 A. I believe there might be a couple. I don't know the
20 exact ones off the top of my head.

21 Q. A couple. Two?

22 A. I do not know the exact number of sites that Feeding Our
23 Future terminated, and I don't know exactly what you mean by
24 "terminated."

25 Q. Okay. Let me use, let me use the phrase after a site

1 has been, has requested participation in the food program.

2 A. Okay.

3 Q. Feeding Our Future refused that site from participating.

4 Did you find any like that?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. How many?

7 A. I don't know the exact number.

8 Q. Up to 100?

9 A. No.

10 Q. More than 50?

11 A. Not that I'm aware of.

12 Q. All right. Do you know sites that Feeding Our Future
13 refused or rejected after determining that they did not
14 follow the rules?

15 A. I don't know their reasons for all the sites that they
16 refused to submit claims for.

17 Q. Were there many sites?

18 A. Not that I'm aware of.

19 Q. I believe your testimony says there were a couple. Is
20 that based on the investigation?

21 A. The phrase I just used a couple minutes ago was a
22 couple. The number is extremely small of the ones that I
23 can think of right now.

24 Q. Let me just -- if evidence show that there were more
25 than 50, that would be, that would surprise you, correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. All right. And if Feeding Our Future rejected
3 participation with over 100 sites, that's something that
4 would be surprising to you?

5 A. To be clear, our investigation didn't focus on who
6 Feeding Our Future didn't submit claims for, but rather
7 review of the claims that were being submitted through
8 Feeding Our Future.

9 Q. Well, I just want to know. As you reviewed 270 boxes of
10 Feeding Our Future documents, did you come across sites that
11 Feeding Our Future rejected?

12 A. I can't speak to the nature of every document across all
13 270 boxes as I sit here right now.

14 Q. All right. Thank you.

15 When you spoke with MDE, did you discern the
16 process that MDE followed before rejecting claims?

17 A. To an extent.

18 Q. All right. They did reject claims.

19 A. They did not reject claims. Claims were processed after
20 being submitted from the sponsoring organization into CLiCS.

21 Q. Now, did you -- part of your investigation, did you
22 discern why MDE did not reject claims?

23 A. It was the sponsoring organization's responsibility to
24 review claims for accuracy. Therefore, there was not a
25 separate review process for individual claims going into

1 MDE's CLiCS system.

2 Q. All right. As part of your investigation did you, did
3 it come to your knowledge that MDE had the authority to
4 reject claims?

5 A. Our investigation showed that MDE tried to question
6 claims at one point as far as going to put a stop pay in,
7 which was overturned.

8 Q. Did they have the authority to reject claims is my
9 question.

10 A. I do not know the specific authorities MDE had so far as
11 all avenues to rejecting an individual claim.

12 Q. I don't want to put words in your mouth. As part of
13 your investigation, did it come to your knowledge that MDE
14 did not have a process to reject claims?

15 MR. JACOBS: Objection, Your Honor. Foundation.

16 THE COURT: Sustained.

17 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

18 Q. All right. As part of your -- by the way, how many
19 meetings did you have with MDE?

20 A. I don't recall the exact number.

21 Q. More than one?

22 A. More than one.

23 Q. Did you talk about a process of reviewing claims?

24 A. We talked about steps they took to review claims that
25 they thought might be inaccurate or fraudulent.

1 Q. All right. Based on your conversation, did it come to
2 your knowledge whether or not MDE utilizing that process?

3 MR. JACOBS: Objection, Your Honor. Foundation.
4 Hearsay. Beyond the scope.

5 THE COURT: Overruled.

6 You may answer.

7 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

8 Q. Using that process, rejected claims?

9 A. I do not believe that MDE had a formalized process for
10 reviewing individual claims. Therefore, I do not think
11 there is a formalized process for rejecting individual
12 claims.

13 They were processed as they were submitted in
14 CLiCS, but the underlying assumption that the sponsoring
15 organization reviewed and attested to the accuracy of them
16 prior to being submitted for each individual claim of
17 reimbursement.

18 Q. Okay. As part of your reviewing documents, did you come
19 across Feeding Our Future documents requiring sites to
20 attest to the accuracy of their submissions?

21 A. I think that's fair to say.

22 Q. Thank you.

23 Let's go to E55, I believe. It's already in
24 evidence.

25 This is Olive Garden, September, correct?

1 A. Olive Management.

2 Q. Olive Management. Sorry.

3 So let's go to page 3.

4 What is that?

5 A. This is an invoice, although not all the text is
6 legible, following the format of other ones, an invoice from
7 Olive Management to Feeding Our Future for suppers and
8 snacks purportedly served in the month of September of 2021.

9 Q. Let's go to the next page, please.

10 And what is that?

11 A. This is an invoice between Safari Restaurant and Feeding
12 Our Future for the rest of September of 2021. As discussed
13 yesterday, there's two separate vendors because it splits
14 between the summer food program service and CACFP once the
15 school year starts back up.

16 Q. Go to page --

17 By the way, is Exhibit 55 a creation of Feeding
18 Our Future?

19 A. These are documents in a folder that was put together
20 and stored at Feeding Our Future.

21 Q. All right.

22 A. Whether or not they created each individual sheet within
23 that I think is, varies from sheet to sheet.

24 Q. All right. Let's go to page, let's go to page 7.

25 Page 7. No, no. Go to 17. Sorry. I know I am making

1 things hard for you, Ms. Mallet.

2 All right. That's an invoice from Hormud Meat and
3 Grocery Inc., correct?

4 A. This is purportedly an invoice from Hormud Meat and
5 Grocery Incorporated to Olive Management Incorporated.

6 Q. All right. And Ms. Bock did not create that invoice,
7 did she?

8 A. I cannot say who created this sheet.

9 Q. Let's go to the first page of this exhibit. Exhibit --
10 all right. Go to the second page.

11 Is it fair to say that you received, you obtained
12 this folder from Feeding Our Future, and it's a compilation
13 of documents relating to a site, correct?

14 A. I believe that's a fair description.

15 Q. And you don't have any evidence that those documents, I
16 don't want to go through all of them, 219 of them, were
17 created by Ms. Bock, do you?

18 A. Based on the full investigation and the evidence at
19 hand, I believe that most of these documents were created
20 and submitted on behalf of the site and then reviewed at
21 Feeding Our Future and stored there.

22 Q. Thank you.

23 Let's go to E52.

24 This is Olive Management for July. For which
25 program is this?

1 A. The folder says AS/SFSP.

2 Q. And what does that mean?

3 A. I assume it means after school/Summer Food Service
4 Program. Given it's July, this is likely filed under Summer
5 Food Service Program.

6 Q. Let's go to page 63.

7 What is that?

8 A. This appears to be the bottom portion of an invoice.

9 Q. And this invoice is sent to which organization?

10 A. It does not say based just on that sheet.

11 Q. All right. Would it help you to look at the second page
12 of this exhibit?

13 A. The previous page would assist.

14 Q. All right. Why don't you go to page 62? All right.

15 What is -- does that help?

16 A. It does.

17 Q. And who is the invoice then to?

18 A. This is an invoice purportedly between Safari Restaurant
19 billed to Feeding Our Future.

20 Q. All right. Did Feeding Our Future create the invoice?

21 A. I cannot say for certain who created this sheet of
22 paper.

23 Q. But does it state there that it's from Feeding Our
24 Future?

25 A. The document purports that this is from Safari

1 Restaurant to Feeding Our Future.

2 Q. Thank you.

3 Ms. Mallet, would you call E52.

4 This is Olive Management also that you testified
5 to earlier?

6 A. This is the same folder we were looking at.

7 Q. Okay. I want to look at page 21. Sorry.

8 So this is from a grocery, right?

9 A. This purports to be from Hormud Meat and Grocery
10 Incorporated.

11 Q. And go to page 20 -- go to page 22. All right.

12 What are those?

13 A. These are individual receipts from Speedway in
14 St. Cloud.

15 Q. And what was the purpose of the receipts?

16 A. Receipts were generally submitted to support
17 reimbursement claims to document purchases made as part of
18 the food that was purportedly served.

19 Q. The receipts were submitted to Feeding Our Future to
20 document their requisite amount of food or food material
21 purchased to support the claim, correct?

22 A. In theory that's why they would be sent.

23 Q. All right. In theory?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. Let's go to E50.

1 Is the same June 2021?

2 A. This is a folder documenting Olive Management,
3 supporting documentation for the month of June 2021.

4 Q. And go to page 6.

5 That's a meal count, correct?

6 A. This is a meal count sheet.

7 Q. And this document is completed by the site and sent to
8 Feeding Our Future, correct?

9 A. That is the way the process is supposed to work.

10 Q. Do you have any doubt that it was completed by the site
11 and sent to Feeding Our Future?

12 A. I'm not going to say I don't have any doubt. Based on
13 our investigation, I believe this document was completed by
14 staff related to that site and then submitted. However, I
15 cannot say for certain.

16 Q. Okay. Let's go to E46. Let's go to the next page,
17 please.

18 This is Olive Management folder, correct?

19 A. Yes, this is a folder for Olive Management.

20 Q. On this exhibit there are 105 documents. I'm not going
21 to subject you to all of them.

22 And I'll direct you to page 7. That's also a meal
23 count?

24 A. This is a meal count sheet.

25 Q. And this document was submitted to Feeding Our Future,

1 correct?

2 A. I believe this document was submitted to Feeding Our
3 Future for, to support a reimbursement claim.

4 Q. But the document was not created by Feeding Our Future,
5 was it?

6 A. Template was. I believe it was filled out by someone
7 associated with the site.

8 Q. Same as page 11, please. Is the same, summer meal
9 count, correct?

10 A. Again, this is a meal count sheet purporting to document
11 the meals prepared and served at Olive Management,
12 St. Cloud.

13 Q. All right. And sent to Feeding Our Future, correct?

14 A. I believe in all likelihood this was submitted to
15 Feeding Our Future to support a reimbursement claim.

16 Q. All right. I'll direct you to E45. Go to page 7 of
17 E45, if my notes are correct.

18 So, first of all, let's go to the first page so I
19 can establish it with you.

20 So this is still Olive Management in St. Cloud,
21 correct?

22 A. Correct. Still Olive Management in St. Cloud, documents
23 found at the Feeding Our Future office.

24 Q. And this is the summer food program?

25 A. That's what's listed on the folder outside.

1 Q. All right. Go to page -- well, go to the next page so
2 that I understand what it is.

3 You've seen this monthly claim packet throughout
4 the exhibits we've reviewed, right?

5 A. Correct. This is an internal Feeding Our Future form
6 that's frequently accompanying the other supporting document
7 for the versus claims that they store at their office.

8 Q. And they have checklists to make sure the documentation
9 is what it purports to be, correct?

10 A. Correct. This appears to be a checklist documenting
11 that someone has reviewed this and verified that certain
12 supporting documents are included for the claim.

13 Q. And you see NA for attendance record is not applicable?

14 A. That is what is noted on this form.

15 Q. All right. Let's go to page 7.

16 Now, call out the initial person taking the daily
17 count and the signature portion on the bottom.

18 Do you see that the initials of person taking the
19 daily meal count is, is it FJ?

20 A. That is what appears to be noted.

21 Q. And the supervisor is someone with that signature on
22 February 6, 2021. Do you see that?

23 A. That is what appears to be noted.

24 Q. Would you agree with me that at least this exhibit
25 doesn't state that Ms. Bock initialled that, and the

1 supervisor was Ms. Bock? Do you see that?

2 A. Ms. Bock's name does not appear to be that signature.

3 Q. All right. Let's go to E42. This is still about Olive
4 Garden -- I mean Olive Management. I'm hungry.

5 Let's go to the next page. The next one.

6 That's a meal count, right?

7 A. This is a meal count form.

8 Q. Based on your investigation, can you tell from that meal
9 count whether it was cooked meals or dry food?

10 A. Not just from the sheet of paper.

11 Q. All right. Now, did the sites have ability to deliver
12 dry foods as part of this count?

13 A. Not all the time. It varied at points throughout the
14 timeline we're discussing here. Dry food was allowed. At
15 other times it was not. The same for home deliveries.
16 Again, these are individual aspects of the meals provided,
17 which would fall under the responsibility of the sponsor to
18 determine that those, all those rules are being followed
19 correctly by each individual site.

20 Q. Do you cook?

21 A. I do. Sometimes.

22 Q. And it's easier to deliver prepackage or dry food than a
23 cooked meal, correct?

24 A. I would agree.

25 MR. UDOIBOK: No further questions, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Mr. Colich, you may proceed.

2 MR. COLICH: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 CROSS-EXAMINATION

4 BY MR. COLICH:

5 Q. It's still morning? Yeah. Good morning, Agent.

6 A. Good morning.

7 Q. So yesterday you testified that, was it October 20th,
8 2020, that the for-profit restaurants were no longer allowed
9 to participate?

10 A. Somewhere that fall.

11 Q. Okay. And Safari Restaurant, did you go to Safari
12 Restaurant any time before October 20th, 2020?

13 A. I did not.

14 Q. So you couldn't tell us whether or not you -- or could
15 you tell us, do you know if any agents that participated in
16 this investigation with you went and viewed Safari
17 Restaurant prior to October 20th, 2020?

18 A. I do not know.

19 Q. Do you know if any agents or anyone else involved in
20 this investigation went inside to see what was happening at
21 Safari Restaurant in that time frame?

22 A. Prior to 2020?

23 Q. October 20, 2020.

24 A. I am not sure.

25 Q. Okay. So let me see if I can make sure I'm clear about

1 something.

2 We've seen so many meal counts, right?

3 A. Seen a lot.

4 Q. A lot of them. And am I correct that your position as
5 an investigator in this case is that those meal counts were
6 fraudulent?

7 A. I believe a large number of meal counts that were
8 submitted to support reimbursement claims under
9 investigation currently were fraudulent.

10 Q. And that determination was made by going and observing
11 all these sites during the time these meal counts were
12 produced?

13 A. That determination was made based on a variety of
14 factors.

15 Q. Okay. So would it be fair to say that most of the
16 conclusions drawn on those meal counts were based on you
17 looking at the potential ability for a site to make that
18 food and deliver that food?

19 A. I think that's one factor.

20 Q. Okay. Now every meal count that we've seen so far,
21 we've seen initials on the bottom of those meal counts. I'm
22 not going to ask anyone to call them up. We've all seen
23 them plenty of times, right?

24 A. That is correct.

25 Q. And there is, again there's a paragraph, a line that

1 says some person is taking account and certifying that the
2 information is true and accurate, right?

3 A. I believe it says something to that effect.

4 Q. And that required a signature by that person?

5 A. There was a signature blank. Most of them had something
6 listed there.

7 Q. So theoretically what that says to all of us is that
8 this person is the person who counted the meals and verifies
9 those meals and here's our meal count for the month, right?

10 A. That is how it's supposed to work, yes.

11 Q. Okay. So yesterday we talked about a few sites. Olive
12 Management, correct?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. Do you know who, for the most part, almost completely
15 put their initials on those meal counts for Olive
16 Management?

17 A. Wouldn't say completely, but quite a few of them are
18 tied to Ahmed Omar-Hashim.

19 Q. Who is FJ?

20 A. That is a Fardowsa, I believe is the first name.

21 Q. And who is that?

22 A. I'm not sure.

23 Q. Well, wait a minute. You just -- we looked at a lot of
24 Olive Management meal counts.

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. And you are telling us someone else is primarily
2 responsible for it, correct?

3 A. Ahmed Omar-Hashim received most of the funds and oversaw
4 the site. However, whether or not he signed or initialed
5 every meal count, I'm not saying that.

6 Q. Okay. But someone did.

7 A. Someone did initial and sign most of the meal counts.

8 Q. Okay. And that is who again?

9 A. I do not recall a specific name without seeing those
10 sheets in front of me.

11 Q. So it's your belief that whoever FJ is, is that she was
12 just told to do that?

13 A. I do not know that.

14 Q. Okay. So we don't know really who did the count, if
15 there was a count done?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. Okay. Thank you.

18 And how about for Stigma-Free International,
19 St. Cloud, who is AO?

20 A. I believe the ones that are initialed AO, most of them
21 list Ahmed Omar as the name. I cannot say for certain
22 that's the case in every single one of those.

23 Q. And who is Ahmed Omar?

24 A. I believe it's Ahmed Omar-Hashim. Again, cannot say
25 with certainty.

1 Q. And for Waite Park, HO?

2 A. Most of the sheets that have the initial HO also have
3 the name Hamdi Omar listed on them.

4 Q. Hamdi Omar. And who is Hamdi Omar?

5 A. Like Ahmed Omar-Hashim, another defendant in this case.

6 Q. Okay. We've seen a lot of invoices receipts, right?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. And is it your position as investigator in this case
9 that the invoices the jury has seen are all fabricated?

10 A. Not all.

11 Q. Would you say a majority of the ones they have seen are?

12 A. I would say a large amount of the ones we have evidence
13 to believe they are fabricated.

14 Q. Now, the receipts we see, those sort of speak for
15 themselves, though; is that correct?

16 A. I think that's fair. Especially a lot of them seem to
17 come from, be legitimate receipts from legitimate
18 businesses. The items listed in them don't usually align
19 with the reimbursement claim being submitted.

20 Q. Okay. So let's direct your attention to the ones that
21 you maintain are fraudulent.

22 A. Okay.

23 Q. Would you say this is a sophisticated fraud?

24 A. I believe so.

25 Q. Okay. And it's so much that someone or someone, some

1 group, had to create these fraudulent invoices, true?

2 A. They didn't have to.

3 Q. Well someone did it.

4 A. I believe someone did, correct.

5 Q. And someone would have to have the capability of sitting
6 down and fabricate all the different items and the costs,
7 correct?

8 A. In order to fabricate an invoice, yes, you would have to
9 generate a list of items.

10 Q. And Omar-Hashim, you know that name, last name?

11 A. I do.

12 Q. Okay. Did he own an alleged finance company, a
13 financial company?

14 A. I believe he was part owner of a financial company.

15 Q. Did he own Total Financial Services?

16 A. Along with another individual.

17 Q. Who was that individual?

18 A. Abdulkadir Salah.

19 Q. Do you know if they are brothers?

20 A. I believe that they are.

21 Q. Okay. Thank you.

22 Along with Abdi Salah?

23 A. Abdi Nur Salah, yes.

24 Q. So two brothers owned a company that did bookkeeping,
25 accounting and other things primarily for the Somali

1 community; is that correct?

2 A. To my knowledge, yes.

3 Q. Okay.

4 MR. COLICH: No other questions.

5 THE COURT: Mr. Jacobs, redirect.

6 MR. JACOBS: Thank you, Your Honor.

7 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. JACOBS:

9 Q. Good morning still, Special Agent Wilmer.

10 A. Good morning.

11 Q. You were just asked a few questions about whether this
12 was a sophisticated scheme.

13 A. That's correct.

14 Q. And your answer I believe was yes.

15 A. Yes, and there was many steps taken to cover up the
16 fraudulent activity.

17 Q. Were there lots of different roles in this scheme?

18 A. There were.

19 Q. Did some involve different levels of sophistication?

20 A. Yes, they did.

21 Q. Is that how a conspiracy works?

22 A. That is exactly how a conspiracy works.

23 Q. What are some of the different roles that people had in
24 this conspiracy?

25 A. There's a variety of roles. Some individuals, as we've

1 discussed, created fabricated documents. Some individuals
2 made misrepresentations about what was occurring. Some
3 individuals spent fraudulent proceeds, and there was some
4 individuals that did some of all these roles, as well as
5 other actions.

6 Q. I want to take you back, because we heard a lot of
7 questions about the word "approval." And I'm pulling up
8 what is already in evidence as Government V29.

9 I'm going to pull up Government V1. Okay.

10 And we see here the word "approve"?

11 A. We do.

12 Q. What is your understanding of what that word "approve"
13 means in the context of the CLiCS form?

14 A. In the context of this form, it means that MDE has
15 approved that site ID and allowed for reimbursement claims
16 to be submitted under that ID number.

17 Q. Okay. Let's talk about what they're not approved to do.
18 Does this clicking of the approval form approve individual
19 sites to submit fraudulent meal counts?

20 A. Absolutely not.

21 Q. Does it approve individual sites to submit claims that
22 are not true?

23 A. Absolutely not.

24 Q. Does it approve individual sites to submit inflated
25 claims?

1 A. Absolutely not.

2 Q. Does it approve sponsors like Feeding Our Future to then
3 submit to MDE claims that are fraudulent?

4 A. Absolutely not.

5 Q. Claims that are inflated?

6 A. Absolutely not.

7 Q. Claims that on their face do not make any sense?

8 A. No. It is their role to do the exact opposite and stop
9 those actions from occurring.

10 Q. You were asked questions about, some questions about
11 rosters and other documents that sponsors were required to
12 maintain.

13 Do you remember those questions?

14 A. I do.

15 Q. Were sponsors required to maintain certain
16 documentation?

17 A. They were.

18 Q. What types of documentation were they required to
19 maintain?

20 A. The documentation to support the claims that they had
21 submitted. This included meal counts, invoices, things that
22 you might expect to be in place to show that this was in
23 fact food that was purchased, prepared and served to
24 children as was stated in the reimbursement claim.

25 Q. Rosters as well?

1 A. Rosters as well.

2 Q. Does MDE require the submission of all that back-up
3 paperwork?

4 A. No. In addition to being responsible for reviewing that
5 to ensure the claims are correct, the sponsors are also
6 responsible for maintaining that paperwork, as opposed to
7 submitting piles and piles of paper to MDE.

8 Q. Why did MDE not require the submission of that back-up
9 paperwork?

10 A. Because that was the sponsor's job. They had attested
11 that the claim was accurate, and they had the documentation
12 to show it, and it was also further their job to maintain
13 that.

14 Q. You were asked some questions on cross-examination about
15 what types of things would have flagged malfeasance, I think
16 was the word.

17 In the course of this investigation, have you seen
18 things that would have flagged malfeasance to a sponsor?

19 A. I've seen many things.

20 Q. Like what?

21 A. In addition to the documentation that we've reviewed,
22 I've seen sites with locations that make no sense,
23 overlapping sites, absurd numbers occurring on top of each
24 other in the same area, extravagant amount of funds being
25 spent on things that have nothing to do with feeding

1 children in the community.

2 Q. I'm pulling up Government J10, which you just saw on
3 cross-examination. This is a submission from Stigma-Free to
4 Feeding Our Future?

5 A. It is.

6 Q. To claims at Feeding Our Future?

7 A. That is correct.

8 Q. Did Ms. Bock have access to that email account?

9 A. She did.

10 Q. Here is a meal count that was submitted that we looked
11 at. And what's the site on this meal count?

12 A. The site is blank.

13 Q. Is that suspicious to you?

14 A. It is.

15 Q. Is that the type of malfeasance that you might expect to
16 raise a red flag at a sponsor?

17 A. This is one of the many things that would raise a red
18 flag and require additional scrutiny.

19 Q. We also talked about, you were also asked questions
20 about rosters. And you were shown this roster, what's in
21 evidence as Government Exhibit E21.

22 Was this another type of document that
23 demonstrated potential malfeasance to you?

24 A. It is.

25 Q. What about it?

1 A. Again, an alarmingly high attendance rate. Anyone who
2 has worked with any kind of programs, particularly with
3 children, knows that these attendance rates don't happen,
4 whether it be schools, daycares, sports programs,
5 after-school programs as listed here.

6 Also based on just the way it's notated, it
7 appears extremely difficult that attendance would be tracked
8 on this format given that there is no rhyme or reason to the
9 way it is formatted and put together.

10 Q. Now you were asked on cross-examination about whether
11 you knew with certainty whether Ms. Bock reviewed this
12 roster. And do you?

13 A. I recall that.

14 Q. Let me ask it a different way. Should Ms. Bock have
15 reviewed this roster?

16 A. She should have. Whether or not she did I cannot say
17 for certain, but given that these claims are tied to
18 extremely large amounts of federal funds being reimbursed
19 for claims that she had attested are true, she should have
20 been able to review them and verify that for certain
21 herself.

22 Q. How long did it take you, after looking at a roster like
23 this, to have suspicions that this roster was fabricated?

24 A. Immediately.

25 Q. Like how many seconds?

1 A. Less than one.

2 Q. And to be clear, that's not the only thing you did to
3 confirm that this was a fabricated roster, right?

4 A. No. After seeing it on its face and having suspicious,
5 then we took additional steps to verify whether in fact
6 these appeared to be actual children that received actual
7 meals as stated on the form.

8 Q. We've looked at a lot of meal counts over the past two
9 days.

10 A. We have.

11 Q. I want to look at one more, and this was one you were
12 shown on cross-examination.

13 This is a file that was recovered from the office
14 of Feeding Our Future?

15 A. That is correct.

16 Q. And you remember being shown this meal count?

17 A. I do.

18 Q. This is a meal count for Olive Management location in
19 St. Cloud?

20 A. That is correct.

21 Q. For the week of November 1st?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. And you were asked whether you are aware -- well, let me
24 take a step back. Based on this meal count, is there
25 anything that jumps out at you that suggests potential

1 malfeasance?

2 A. There is several things. As we discussed yesterday, the
3 lack of -- inconsistency across the board is alarming and
4 suggests that this is not being documented accurately to the
5 number of meals prepared and served to children each day.

6 Q. How many seconds did it take you to look at a meal count
7 like this and at least have some suspicion that there was
8 something wrong with it?

9 A. Immediately upon review there is suspicion that this is
10 not in fact true.

11 Q. And you were asked I believe a question about whether
12 you knew with certainty whether Ms. Bock looked at this meal
13 count.

14 A. That is correct. I do not know with certainty whether
15 she did or she did not. However, she should have prior to
16 submitting this claim for reimbursement.

17 Q. Why should she have looked at this meal count?

18 A. Because she is responsible for ensuring that every claim
19 she submits is true and accurate.

20 Q. You were also asked a question about whether looking at
21 this meal count you knew whether these were hot meals or I
22 believe dry food was the word that was used?

23 A. I believe that's the word that was used.

24 Q. And you testified that looking at this particular meal
25 count you didn't know.

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. And I think the suggestion was that delivering dry food
3 was easier than hot food.

4 A. I believe that was implied by the line of questioning.

5 Q. Because it might be easier to deliver 3,000 dry meals?

6 A. Easier but certainly not easy.

7 Q. Because cooking for 3,000 people is a lot?

8 A. I can't imagine how to accomplish such a task.

9 Q. Have you ever hosted Thanksgiving dinner?

10 A. I have.

11 Q. How many people do you cook for?

12 A. Most recently there was only seven of us, and I spent
13 all day in the kitchen.

14 Q. I'm going down to page 4 of this same meal count, again
15 for the week of November 1st, Olive Management in St. Cloud.
16 Looking at this meal count, are you able to say whether this
17 was hot food or dry food?

18 A. Again, there's not a notation specifically to that.
19 However, there's food temperature that would suggest that
20 this is hot food.

21 Q. It would be pretty unlikely if you had a bag of
22 groceries that was 143 degrees Fahrenheit?

23 A. It's probably not occurring in St. Cloud in November.

24 Q. You were asked some questions on cross-examination about
25 sites that were terminated by Feeding Our Future. Do you

1 remember those questions?

2 A. I do.

3 Q. And you were asked if any sites were ever terminated by
4 Feeding Our Future.

5 A. I was.

6 Q. Are you familiar with the site Brava Restaurant?

7 A. I am.

8 Q. Is that a site that was terminated by Feeding Our
9 Future?

10 A. Brava Restaurant in Rochester?

11 Q. Brava Cafe?

12 A. Brave Cafe in Minneapolis is a site that Feeding Our
13 Future refused to submit claims for after a certain point in
14 time.

15 Q. Why did Feeding Our Future refuse to submit claims for
16 Brava Cafe after a certain period of time?

17 A. According to the owner and operator of that site, they
18 refused to submit claims because she refused to pay
19 extremely large kickback to Ms. Bock in the form of cash.

20 Q. How big of a kickback?

21 A. \$1.5 million.

22 Q. And after that happened, what did Feeding Our Future --
23 what did Aimee Bock do?

24 A. Refused to submit their claims and accused them of
25 purported fraud.

1 Q. You were asked some questions on cross-examination about
2 the financials and bank statements for a couple of the
3 vendors. Do you remember those questions?

4 A. I do.

5 Q. You were asked whether or not you saw Aimee Bock's name
6 anywhere on that bank statement?

7 A. That is correct.

8 Q. And you were asked whether Aimee Bock had any ownership
9 interest in that historic mansion purchased by the Safari
10 group?

11 A. That is correct.

12 Q. How did Feeding Our Future obtain money in the course of
13 the food program?

14 A. Sponsors were allowed to obtain, retain up to 15 percent
15 as administrative fee. Feeding Our Future retained usually
16 approximately 10 percent of all reimbursement claims. So
17 for the period in question here, it's upwards of \$20 million
18 to carry out their role as sponsor for these sites over
19 these two years.

20 Q. And on the Feeding Our Future bank account, who was the
21 sole signatory?

22 A. Aimee Bock.

23 Q. The executive director?

24 A. That is correct.

25 Q. And for a nonprofit organization, what is the entity

1 that's responsible for overseeing or ensuring that the
2 fiduciary duties of the nonprofit are being met?

3 A. I'm not sure I understand the question.

4 Q. Does the board of directors of a nonprofit have
5 oversight of the fiduciary duties of an executive director?

6 A. They are supposed to.

7 Q. In the course of this trial, have you heard any
8 testimony that would give you pause about whether the board
9 of directors of Feeding Our Future was having any oversight?

10 A. I certainly haven't. Over the course of this
11 investigation, it appears that the board of directors, much
12 like this paperwork we've seen, is fabricated.

13 MR. JACOBS: Thank you.

14 No further questions, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Any recross?

16 Mr. Udoibok.

17 MR. UDOIBOK: Thank you, Your Honor.

18 RECROSS-EXAMINATION

19 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

20 Q. I just want to understand your reasoning.

21 Counsel asked you about whether you have
22 information of Feeding Our Future board exercising
23 oversight.

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. And you believe based on the evidence and the testimony

1 you've heard in this case, the board didn't exercise such,
2 is that right? Do I have you right?

3 A. It appears that some of the board members didn't even
4 know that they were board members. Other ones had no
5 involvement in the company at all, other than being listed
6 on a sheet of paper.

7 Q. My question, though -- I know you give a narrative. My
8 question is, Is it fair to say that your opinion based on
9 the facts you've gathered, that the board did not exercise
10 oversight; is that correct?

11 A. I think that's fair.

12 Q. All right. Now are you saying that Ms. Bock breached
13 fiduciary duties?

14 A. I don't understand the question.

15 Q. Well, you, you were asked by counsel about oversight.

16 A. I was asked about the board of directors.

17 Q. Yes, the board -- board of directors did not exercise
18 oversight, correct?

19 A. I don't think there was a board of directors. I think
20 Ms. Bock put names on a sheet of paper to make it appear
21 that there was, but she had control of the company,
22 including the fiduciary responsibilities.

23 Q. Officer, I know what you want to say, but answer my
24 question.

25 A. Can you repeat the question?

1 Q. I will try.

2 My question to you is, Are you saying that Feeding
3 Our Future board did not exercise oversight?

4 A. The board that was listed on those documents did not
5 have oversight of the company.

6 Q. All right. Now, and there was a phrase "fiduciary
7 duties" used, correct?

8 A. I believe that was used to describe how most board of
9 directors would operate.

10 Q. All right. And is it your testimony that Ms. Bock
11 breached fiduciary duties?

12 A. I don't understand why you are say "breached." I don't
13 understand that line of questioning.

14 MR. JACOBS: Your Honor, I object. It calls for a
15 legal conclusion.

16 THE COURT: Sustained.

17 MR. UDOIBOK: All right.

18 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

19 Q. What do you mean by "fiduciary duties"?

20 A. When I say fiduciary duties --

21 Q. Yes.

22 A. -- I understand that to mean financial responsibility,
23 financial oversight.

24 Q. All right. The board has financial responsibility?

25 A. I'm not saying that.

1 Q. What are you saying? Who has the financial
2 responsibility?

3 MR. JACOBS: Objection, Your Honor. We're beyond
4 the scope of redirect now.

5 MR. UDOIBOK: Your Honor --

6 THE COURT: Overruled.

7 You may continue.

8 THE WITNESS: Our investigation of Feeding Our
9 Future has shown that Ms. Bock had sole financial ownership
10 and oversight of Feeding Our Future.

11 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

12 Q. Ownership.

13 A. And oversight.

14 Q. Did, did Ms. Bock own Feeding Our Future?

15 A. No.

16 Q. All right. I know you believe the board did not
17 exercise oversight, but I want you to explain to me, because
18 I'm trying to understand, what you mean by "fiduciary
19 duties."

20 Let me break it down this way: Do you believe
21 that the board had fiduciary duties?

22 A. I don't believe.

23 MR. JACOBS: Objection, Your Honor. His testimony
24 was that there was no board. He cannot answer this
25 question.

1 THE COURT: Overruled.

2 You may answer.

3 THE WITNESS: I do not believe that there was a
4 board of directors that existed for Feeding Our Future.

5 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

6 Q. All right. So what fiduciary duties are you talking
7 about?

8 A. In theory, had there been a board, you would expect that
9 they might exercise fiduciary duties.

10 Q. Oh, okay. Okay. Okay. So in the Feeding Our Future
11 organization, you believe the board was phantom, correct?

12 A. I did not say "phantom."

13 Q. Okay. But the board, did a board exist at all?

14 A. On paper alone.

15 Q. Okay. It was existed on paper, and it did not exercise
16 the, their responsibilities as a board, correct?

17 A. I think a board was listed to merely make the appearance
18 that all of the normal expectations of a nonprofit that
19 would have a budget of 20 plus million dollars.

20 Q. All right. As an executive director, did Ms. Bock have
21 any fiduciary duty?

22 A. I don't understand how you are still using it in that
23 context.

24 Q. Okay. I believe you looked at -- you testified about
25 bank accounts, correct? Do you recall that testimony?

1 A. Yes, we looked at some bank accounts.

2 Q. All right. And in those bank accounts you, you discover
3 number of checks from Feeding Our Future, correct?

4 A. There were checks from Feeding Our Future to those
5 accounts.

6 Q. All right. And did you exercise, did you execute a
7 search warrant on Ms. Bock's bank account?

8 A. Not a search warrant of the account. That's not the
9 procedure for obtaining that information.

10 Q. Did you review Ms. Bock's personal bank account?

11 A. Yes, we did.

12 Q. All right. And did you see millions of dollars in it?

13 A. Not in her personal account, but in her business account
14 that she oversaw.

15 Q. No, no, no, no. Let's be precise so you don't mislead
16 the jury.

17 A. Okay.

18 Q. I'm talking about Ms. Bock's personal account.

19 A. I do not remember the exact balance at the time that I
20 saw it.

21 Q. Was it even close to a million dollars?

22 A. I do not recall the exact amount.

23 Q. But you, I take it you reviewed it?

24 MR. JACOBS: Objection, Your Honor. Again, beyond
25 the scope of redirect.

1 THE COURT: Sustained.

2 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

3 Q. All right. You, you testified earlier about Brava Cafe?

4 A. That is correct.

5 Q. Was Brava Cafe part of or connected to House of Refuge?

6 A. After it left the sponsorship of Feeding Our Future,
7 they were a vendor for House of Refuge.

8 Q. All right. And did Feeding Our Future, by extension
9 Ms. Bock, terminate Brava Cafe?

10 A. At a point in time, Feeding Our Future as an extension
11 of Ms. Bock refused to continue to process the claims for
12 Brava Cafe as they had done previously.

13 Q. Who was the principle of Brava Cafe?

14 A. Hanna Marekegn.

15 Q. All right. Was -- did she ever make a public statement
16 about the conduct of Brava Cafe?

17 MR. JACOBS: Objection, Your Honor. Hearsay.
18 Beyond the scope.

19 THE COURT: Sustained.

20 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

21 Q. All right. Did she plead guilty?

22 A. She did.

23 Q. And did she plead guilty exclusively to her conduct with
24 Feeding Our Future or someone else?

25 A. She pled guilty to her conduct within the Federal Child

1 Nutrition Program.

2 Q. All right. And part of that included another
3 organization, correct?

4 A. That is correct.

5 Q. All right. Why didn't you say that earlier?

6 A. I was not asked specifically what sponsor. The question
7 I was asked was why Feeding Our Future no longer continued
8 to submit their claims.

9 Q. So you testified earlier that you didn't know, you are
10 not sure of the waivers that applied at a particular time.

11 A. There were numerous --

12 MR. JACOBS: Objection, Your Honor. Beyond the
13 scope.

14 THE COURT: When you said earlier, we're talking
15 about the first time he testified? Not the redirect, right?

16 MR. UDOIBOK: I believe the redirect.

17 THE COURT: Mr. Jacobs.

18 MR. JACOBS: Your Honor, I don't recall anything
19 about waivers in the redirect.

20 THE COURT: Me, either.

21 Sustained.

22 MR. UDOIBOK: All right.

23 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

24 Q. You testified that your expectation is Ms. Bock verified
25 the documents that she submitted to MDE, correct?

1 A. Ms. Bock should have been certain that every claim that
2 she submitted was accurate and true.

3 Q. All right. And --

4 A. As part of that I would expect review of documentation
5 to support those claims, amongst other steps.

6 Q. Is it your expectation that she personally has to review
7 and certify all the documents that she submitted to MDE at
8 the Feeding Our Future?

9 A. The only submission to MDE from her was submitting
10 claims for reimbursement through CLiCS. It's her role to
11 ensure that all those are true and accurate. Whether she
12 does that by reviewing each sheet or by other methods is
13 her, up to her, but it's her responsibility to ensure that
14 each one that is submitted is true.

15 Q. I realize what her responsibility is.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. Can she rely on her staff?

18 A. If she chooses to.

19 Q. All right. And in this investigation, did you review
20 all 270 boxes that was taken from Feeding Our Future?

21 A. Me personally?

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. No.

24 Q. No. You relied on some of your colleagues, correct?

25 A. That's correct.

1 MR. UDOIBOK: I don't have any further questions.

2 THE COURT: Mr. Colich.

3 MR. COLICH: Nothing, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Mr. Jacobs.

5 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

6 BY MR. JACOBS:

7 Q. Special Agent Wilmer, how many boxes did you have to
8 review before you came across claims, documentations, meal
9 counts that raised your suspicion that fraud was occurring?

10 A. Far, far fewer than 270.

11 MR. JACOBS: No further questions.

12 THE COURT: You may step down, sir. Thank you.

13 And the government may call its next witness.

14 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Your Honor. The
15 government calls Qamar Hassan.

16 THE COURT: Good morning. Come on forward. I'm
17 going to have you stand to take the oath. Would you raise
18 your right hand.

19 QAMAR HASSAN,

20 called on behalf of the government, was duly sworn, was
21 examined and testified as follows:

22 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

23 THE COURT: Okay. Have a seat in the chair
24 please. And I'm going to have you come close to the
25 microphone. And you are going to need to speak up.

1 Could you state and spell both your first and last
2 name for the record.

3 THE WITNESS: Qamar Hassan. Q-A-M-A-R. Hassan,
4 H-A-S-S-A-N.

5 THE COURT: All right. And you can pull that
6 microphone just a little bit closer to you. The whole stand
7 moves.

8 THE WITNESS: Okay.

9 MR. THOMPSON: Your Honor, we're going to have a
10 Somali translator for Ms. Hassan who speaks some English but
11 not fluently.

12 THE COURT: Terrific. Thank you.

13 In that case, I think you will need the microphone
14 rather than Ms. Hassan.

15 Good morning.

16 THE INTERPRETER: Your Honor, I only have a 15
17 more minutes there's supposed to be another interpreter
18 coming in.

19 THE COURT: Okay. Well, we'll go as long be as we
20 can. Thank you.

21 THE INTERPRETER: Thank you.

22 THE COURT: Yep. I will have you sworn in please.

23 COURTROOM DEPUTY: Please raise your right hand.

24 (Oath administered)

25 THE INTERPRETER: I do.

1 COURTROOM DEPUTY: Thank you.

2 THE COURT: Ms. Hassan, are you able to understand
3 the interpreter?

4 THE WITNESS: Yes.

5 THE COURT: If there's a time during the testimony
6 that you can't understand the interpreter, will you let us
7 know?

8 THE WITNESS: Yes.

9 THE COURT: Thank you.

10 And so I'll have you, as you stand, maybe pull the
11 microphone to you, sir, so that we can hear your answers.

12 And then, Mr. Thompson, you may inquire.

13 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 DIRECT EXAMINATION

15 BY MR. THOMPSON:

16 Q. Good morning, Ms. Hassan.

17 A. Good morning.

18 Q. Ms. Hassan would you mind pulling your mask down while
19 you testify? Thank you.

20 Now Ms. Hassan, we're going to take it slow here
21 because I know we're going to go through a translator.

22 Okay?

23 A. Okay.

24 Q. If at any point you don't understand my question or the
25 translation, please just say so. Okay?

1 A. Okay.

2 Q. Ms. Hassan, where are you from?

3 A. Somalia.

4 Q. How long did you live in Somalia?

5 A. Well, when I lived in Somalia, I was about 20, 21.

6 Q. In 20, 21? Okay. And --

7 THE COURT: Sorry. I understand that. Age 20, 21
8 or year?

9 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, my age.

10 MR. THOMPSON: When you were 20 or 21 you left
11 Somalia?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes.

13 BY MR. THOMPSON:

14 Q. What year was that, Ms. Hassan?

15 A. 1991.

16 Q. And why did you leave Somalia when you were 20 or 21?

17 A. The civil war.

18 Q. The Somalia civil war?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Where did you go when you left Somalia during the civil
21 war?

22 A. Refugee camp in Kenya.

23 Q. A refugee camp?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. How long did you live in the refugee camp in Kenya?

1 A. I'd say between three to four years. I was in and out.
2 Sometimes I would go to Nairobi, Kenya, and sometimes I
3 would go back to the refugee camp. But most of the time I
4 spent in the refugee camp.

5 Q. Were you with family at the refugee camp in Kenya?

6 A. The first two years, yes.

7 Q. When did you come to the United States?

8 A. '95.

9 Q. '95. How old were you?

10 A. I think maybe 26, 27, something like that.

11 Q. When you first moved to the United States, where did you
12 live?

13 A. Minnesota.

14 Q. Where in Minnesota did you first live?

15 A. South Minneapolis and then Faribault.

16 Q. Okay. And how did you end up in Minnesota, as opposed
17 to somewhere else in the United States?

18 A. Well, at first I landed from New York, but I did not
19 stay there.

20 Q. Okay. When you moved to Minnesota and you lived first
21 in Minneapolis and then in Faribault, did you work?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. What kind of jobs did you work at when you first lived
24 in Minnesota?

25 A. Many different work. Housekeeping, JC Penney,

1 McDonalds, housekeeping.

2 Q. Did you have, do you have any children?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. How many children do you have?

5 A. You mean now or then?

6 Q. Well, how about now.

7 A. Six.

8 Q. Did they live here in Minnesota, Ms. Hassan?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Ms. Hassan, now you speak some English; is that right?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What's your native language?

13 A. Somali.

14 Q. Do you speak English fluently?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Do you read and write?

17 A. No.

18 Q. In English?

19 A. No.

20 Q. In Somali?

21 A. No.

22 Q. You don't read and write at all?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. All right. Ms. Hassan, I want to talk to you about

25 after you got established in Minnesota, at some point you

1 started a business; is that right?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And specifically a restaurant?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Can you tell us about the restaurant, that restaurant
6 you first started?

7 A. In 2018 I open a restaurant called S & S. I applied at
8 the time, but then I open in 2019.

9 Q. Okay. And that business was called S & S Catering?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Ms. Hassan, you had --

12 Okay. Ms. Hassan, I think you said something
13 about applying and opening the business. That's two
14 different things. Could you explain that, please?

15 A. So in 2000 -- at the end of 2018 I apply. And then in
16 2019 I received the license.

17 Q. Okay. What kind of business was S & S Catering,
18 Ms. Hassan?

19 A. It is a place, we make food, just delivery, but it
20 doesn't have like a restaurant where you can sit. It's just
21 anybody request, we deliver to that person.

22 Q. So like a catering or takeout?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did you have a partner or someone you started the
25 business S & S Catering with back in 2018/19?

1 THE INTERPRETER: I'm sorry, Your Honor. I missed
2 the first part.

3 BY MR. THOMPSON:

4 Q. Ms. Hassan, did you have a business partner with whom
5 you opened S & S Catering back in 2018 and 2019?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Who was that business partner?

8 A. Sahra Nur.

9 Q. Sahra Nur? Okay.

10 THE COURT: Can we take one minute? We're going
11 to switch interpreters here.

12 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Thank you very much for your service.

14 THE INTERPRETER: You are welcome, Your Honor.

15 And I'm going to have you sworn in, sir.

16 COURTROOM DEPUTY: Please raise your right hand.

17 (Oath administered)

18 THE INTERPRETER: Yes, I do.

19 COURTROOM DEPUTY: Thank you.

20 THE INTERPRETER: You are welcome.

21 THE COURT: Ms. Hassan, same rules apply. If you
22 don't understand the interpreter, please let us know.

23 You may continue, Mr. Thompson.

24 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

25

1 BY MR. THOMPSON:

2 Q. Ms. Hassan, testifying at trial is not easy, and it's
3 even harder when it is not in your native language and
4 through a translator. Okay. We understand that.

5 But I'm going to ask you the questions. Okay?
6 And he's just going to repeat what I say in Somali. And you
7 can answer the questions to me or the jury, and he will
8 repeat your answer in English. Okay?

9 Sound good?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Okay. Ms. Hassan, all right. Ms. Hassan, S & S
12 Catering, you said it was a catering or takeout company.
13 What kind of business did you do?

14 A. Yeah, we're doing several things. We were doing the
15 cooking. We were doing the cooking for daycares, and we
16 were preparing food for weddings and also adult daycare
17 centers.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. And things like that, we were taking care of that.

20 Q. Ms. Hassan, can you tell us a little bit about the types
21 of daycares that you provided meals for through S & S
22 Catering?

23 A. Yeah, we were preparing food for the kids. You know,
24 sometimes we get 20 orders, 30 orders, 40 orders. They
25 request that, and we prepare that and deliver it to them.

1 Q. When you said 20 or 30 or 40, that would be meals?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Okay. How many daycares did you provide meals for
4 typically?

5 A. Yeah, we started with two, and we ended up with about
6 four total.

7 Q. Okay. Started with two daycares and then a total of
8 four daycares?

9 A. And then one adult care on top of the four.

10 Q. Okay. Was that a similar number of meals that you
11 provided for an adult care?

12 A. It varies, you know. It depends who was all there. It
13 depends on that and maybe 40, 50, 30, whatever.

14 Q. Okay. Per day?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Okay. And you said your partner was Sahra Nur; is that
17 right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And tell us a little bit about Ms. Nur. How did you
20 know her? Did you know her before you started at the
21 restaurant with her or the catering company?

22 A. Yeah, we knew each other before.

23 Q. Okay. How had you met her?

24 A. Yeah. Well, we, we shared like collecting these -- we
25 constantly, we collect money among friends and

1 acquaintances. That's how we get to know each other. And
2 then one person will receive that money, and we get to know
3 each other inside the mall. Other than that, we didn't know
4 each other.

5 Q. Okay. Which mall did you meet here?

6 A. Yeah. Somali mall, sometimes we see each other at the
7 weddings, and if you share the culture, we bump into each
8 other in various different types of venues.

9 Q. In the Somali community?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And Ms. Nur or, sorry, Ms. Hassan, for those who don't
12 know, when you say a "Somali mall," what do you mean?

13 A. It's where, it's like a shopping center where we sell
14 our clothings culturally, just like how Mexicans have their
15 own little mall, and we do have our own mall on -- that's
16 where we buy either groceries or clothings, cultural
17 clothings.

18 Q. Okay. Thank you, Ms. Hassan.

19 At some point your company S & S Catering, did it
20 close for a time?

21 A. Yes. Yeah, when -- as soon as corona happened, it
22 closed down.

23 Q. During COVID?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Spring of 2020?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Ms. Hassan, at some point did you and Sahra Nur reopen
3 S & S Catering during the COVID pandemic?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. When was that?

6 A. August. In August.

7 Q. Of what year?

8 A. 2020.

9 Q. Okay. Can you tell us how it is you decided to reopen
10 in August of 2020?

11 A. Well, there was some gentlemen called us, and he said we
12 distributed food, could you help us make food for these
13 people, like about 300, 300 people to -- we make the food
14 for them, and then we deliver the food, prepare the food for
15 them. Yeah, it was -- correction.

16 It was a friend. It was not some gentleman. It
17 was a friend that called us, and the day -- the daycares
18 that we used to deal with, they called us and wanted to have
19 this business with us.

20 Q. What kind of business with you?

21 A. Yeah, delivering food, the food program.

22 Q. What do you mean, Ms. Hassan, when you talk about the
23 food program?

24 A. Yeah, well, we didn't know it was a free food for these
25 people, and then once we found out about it, and they told

1 us that we going to be reimbursed later on.

2 Q. Were you interested in participating in the food
3 program, Ms. Hassan?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Why?

6 A. At that time, we wanted a place where we can work and
7 make money off of it.

8 Q. You say, "Make money off it." Could you describe that?

9 A. Yeah, well, you know, we were first people that started
10 that deliver food, free food for the people, and we saw that
11 they were progressing and they were successful.

12 Once we saw that, we started to jump in and start
13 that business also.

14 Q. You say you saw that people were progressing and being
15 successful in the food program. What do you mean by that,
16 Ms. Hassan?

17 A. Yeah, well, you know, we were told that so and so, so
18 and so made money, and then so and so made money off of this
19 program. And then we started to do same thing.

20 Q. In the program?

21 A. That's what I was talking about.

22 Q. In the program? You had heard about it.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And wanted to get involved?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Did you meet with someone before you, as you tried to
2 get involved in the food program?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Who did you meet with?

5 A. Yeah, me and my partner, we went to Aimee's office, and
6 we told her, we told her that we wanted to participate in
7 this program.

8 Q. Aimee Bock's office?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. When was that that you and Ms. Nur went to Aimee Bock's
11 office?

12 A. In August. About August 14, 15, around that.

13 Q. Of 2020?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Now, Ms. Hassan, before we talk about your meeting with
16 Ms. Bock in August of 2020, I want to talk to you a little
17 about how you came do testify here today. Okay?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. You've actually pled guilty for your involvement in the
20 food program; is that right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And agents actually searched your home and business in
23 January of 2022 when they executed search warrants in this
24 case, correct?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Agents interviewed you that day?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Were you honest when you talked to the agents that day
4 about your role and participation in the food program?

5 A. I was shocked at that time, and I didn't know what I was
6 saying. Actually, no.

7 Q. Were you scared?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Did you lie to the agents?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. You later were -- you later got a lawyer, correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. You were charged in the case?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And you pled guilty?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. What did you plead guilty to?

18 A. Yeah, that I did not do something that was good at that
19 time and I knew that.

20 Q. That you committed fraud?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Why did you plead guilty, Ms. Hassan?

23 A. Yeah, well, when I was committing that crime at that
24 time, it was not something I thought about it thoroughly,
25 and then later on I realized I made a mistake.

1 Q. You lied.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Ms. Hassan, when you pled guilty, did you agree to
4 cooperate with the investigation?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Did you agree to testify truthfully at this trial and
7 any other trials?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And do you hope that you will -- that will help you in
10 terms of the sentence you ultimately receive in the case?

11 A. I hope so.

12 Q. Ultimately, who is going to decide what sentence you
13 receive in this case?

14 A. The judge.

15 Q. Have you and I ever discussed what your sentence might
16 be?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Have any of my colleagues here talked to you about what
19 your sentence might be in this case?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Okay. The judge will decide.

22 A. Yes.

23 MR. THOMPSON: This is a fine place to stop if you
24 want to stop at 12:15, Your Honor.

25 I'm happy to continue.

1 THE COURT: Are you available after lunch?

2 THE INTERPRETER: Yes.

3 THE COURT: I want to make sure that we have got
4 interpreters lined up.

5 MR. THOMPSON: We do.

6 THE INTERPRETER: Yes. Thank you, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: In that case, let's stop now. We will
8 return at 1:15.

9 All rise for the jury.

10 12:14 p.m.

11 **IN OPEN COURT**

12 **(JURY NOT PRESENT)**

13 THE COURT: All right. Everybody, 1:15. Thank
14 you.

15 (Recess taken at 12:14 p.m. till 1:16 p.m.)

16 1:16 p.m.

17 **IN OPEN COURT**

18 **(JURY PRESENT)**

19 THE COURT: You may all be seated.

20 Ms. Hassan, my understanding is you would like to
21 proceed to testify in English with the interpreter serving
22 as a backup; is that right?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 THE COURT: All right. So we can just do that.
25 The interpreter will be a backup. You let us know if you

1 need the interpreter.

2 Mr. Thompson, you may proceed.

3 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 BY MR. THOMPSON:

5 Q. Ms. Hassan, before the break you were telling us about
6 how you joined the food program in August of 2020; is that
7 correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And you said that when you were joining the program, you
10 and your partner, Sahra Nur, went to meet with Aimee Bock at
11 her office; is that correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Could you tell us about that meeting?

14 A. We had said we go to Aimee office and sat, told Aimee
15 Qamar need the food program, and Aimee say what you address
16 and my address. And Safari, we are one block, and Safari
17 has a lunch, that she say you can give them dinner.

18 Q. Okay. I want to walk through that account. Okay? Take
19 it piece by piece. Okay?

20 A. Okay.

21 Q. First off, Ms. Hassan, you said that Sahra brought you
22 there, and you talked to Ms. Bock about your desire to join
23 the food program; is that right?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Did Sahra Nur know Aimee Bock at that point?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. What was Sahra Nur, your partner's, relationship with
3 Aimee Bock at that time?

4 A. Well, they know each other long time, like friends.

5 Q. They were friends?

6 A. I call friends, yeah.

7 Q. Ms. Hassan, did Sahra Nur work with Aimee Bock in any
8 way?

9 A. Sahra Nur told me she, when she saw Aimee at the place
10 that a lot of Somali people she including.

11 Q. Who recruited?

12 A. Aimee place.

13 Q. Sahra recruited for Aimee?

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. What did Sahra recruit for Aimee Bock?

16 A. The daycares, so everybody need that Aimee broker them
17 at that time.

18 Q. She recruited Somali owned daycares?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. To participate with Aimee Bock's company?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. What what Aimee Bock's company called?

23 A. Feeding Our Future.

24 Q. Okay. You said that during the conversation between
25 you, Sahra Nur and Aimee Bock, Sahra Nur told Aimee Bock

1 your address; is that right?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. What address, what -- of your company?

4 A. 301 Lake Street.

5 Q. And what's located at 301 East Lake Street?

6 A. Yeah, East Lake Street.

7 Q. What company is located there?

8 A. S & S company.

9 Q. S & S Catering?

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. And that's 301 East Lake Street in south Minneapolis?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. You testified a moment ago that after Ms. Nur told Aimee

14 Bock the address of S & S Catering, Aimee said something

15 about it being located near Safari?

16 A. Safari is Fourth Street and we Third Street, one block.

17 Q. And what is Safari?

18 A. Safari is Fourth Street.

19 Q. I'm sorry. What is Safari? Safari Restaurant?

20 A. Safari Restaurant, yeah.

21 Q. And who owns Safari Restaurant?

22 A. I don't know who own actually, but I know they Somalien

23 too.

24 Q. It's a Somali restaurant?

25 A. Yeah.

1 Q. Okay. Mr. Salim Said, do you know him in court today?

2 A. I don't know him personally, but I see like Somali
3 community twice or something like that.

4 Q. Did he have a relationship with Safari Restaurant?

5 A. Yeah, I think so, but I'm not sure.

6 Q. Okay. What did Aimee Bock tell you about Safari
7 Restaurant during that meeting in August of 2020?

8 A. She say they give them lunch to people, but we can give
9 you dinner time.

10 Q. Why if they were doing lunch could your company only do
11 dinner?

12 A. Because we are close, like we are close.

13 Q. One block away?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Did Ms. Bock tell you anything else about how S & S
16 Catering could participate in the food program?

17 A. No, at that time Eidleh stay. She called Eidleh, and he
18 fill out application for other office.

19 Q. Who is Eidleh?

20 A. Eidleh, he work Aimee office that time.

21 Q. One of her employees?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Did you talk to Eidleh that day?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. What did you talk about?

1 A. The application most of the time, but --

2 Q. What application was it?

3 A. The application for food program, application for give,
4 apply for the dinner, S & S.

5 Q. Did you complete an application?

6 A. That day, yes.

7 Q. Okay. What, what, if anything, did Eidleh tell you
8 about the food program in your application?

9 A. Most of the time he ask me questions for the
10 application, and I ask him how long it take the food, the
11 money. If I give them the first time, how long it take the
12 moneys coming.

13 Q. Why did you ask him about how long it would take to get
14 money?

15 A. Because when I apply the food, I apply for money.

16 Q. What do you mean when you applied for the food program,
17 you applied for money?

18 A. Because I'm working my restaurant, I need money. Then
19 when I apply, job, everybody need money.

20 Q. What did you expect would happen when you joined the
21 food program with respect to money?

22 A. I expect getting a lot of money.

23 Q. Why did you expect to get a lot of money when you joined
24 this food program?

25 A. When I start, everybody they talk about that.

1 Q. What did they talk about?

2 A. Everybody before me, they get the money and they change
3 their life.

4 Q. They change their life?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. Where did they get the money?

7 A. The food.

8 Q. The food program?

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. Did you talk about the amount of money that you would
11 make or the amount of meals you would serve during that
12 meeting at Feeding Our Future in August of 2020?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What did you talk about?

15 A. I say how much I start. He say 1,000 you can start, but
16 up to 3,000.

17 Q. Who told you that?

18 A. Eidleh.

19 Q. 1,000 what?

20 A. 1,000 meals a day.

21 Q. What was your reaction when he told you you could do
22 1,000 meals a day?

23 A. Seems a lot to me.

24 Q. Why did you think it seemed like a lot to you?

25 A. Because that time I start, I don't know the program very

1 good. Then after that I, he told me the Safari, they,
2 Safari is they neighbor you, and they have 5,000.

3 Q. What was your reaction when Mr. Eidleh told you that the
4 Safari Restaurant was serving 5,000 meals a day?

5 A. That time seems to like not possible, but --

6 Q. Did you agree to start in the program?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. How quickly after that meeting in August of 2020 did
9 you, your restaurant S & S Catering, join the food program?

10 A. September 14th I start.

11 Q. September 14th of 2020?

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. I want to show you some exhibits, Ms. Hassan. Okay?

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. First I want to show you what's been marked, but not yet
16 admitted as Government Exhibit Q2. And this is an email
17 that you sent to Mr. Eidleh on November 1st of 2020 with the
18 subject line: October Summer Meal Counts Clicker.

19 Your Honor, I move to admit Government Exhibit Q2?

20 THE COURT: Any objection?

21 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

22 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

23 THE COURT: Q2 is admitted.

24 BY MR. THOMPSON:

25 Q. All right. Now, Ms. Hassan, I understand you don't

1 read; is that correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. So I'm going to read this for you and ask you about it.
4 Okay?

5 A. Okay.

6 Q. First off, the email says it's from Qamar Hassan. Is
7 that you?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And the email address is fido7177@gmail.com. Whose
10 email account is that?

11 A. It's my email.

12 Q. Do you send emails?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Who sent this email?

15 A. A lot of people work with me. Sahra, she is working and
16 the people we hire.

17 Q. Sahra Nur?

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. Your partner?

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. Aimee Bock's friend?

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. And this email is sent to Eidleh at Feeding Our Future.
24 Is that Mr. Eidleh? Who is Eidleh?

25 A. Eidleh is working Aimee Bock office.

1 Q. Okay. And the subject line says, October Summer Meal
2 Counts Clicker. And then on November 1st, 2020, Mr. Eidleh
3 forwarded along to the Feeding Our Future office staff.

4 I'm going to direct your attention to the second
5 page. Well, actually page 4.

6 Have you seen a meal count sheet like this? Have
7 you seen sheets like this, Ms. Hassan?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. When?

10 A. The phone, the day they proof, they give me a lot of
11 forms like this, and they say you have to fill out 2,500.

12 Q. Who gave you forms like this?

13 A. Eidleh.

14 Q. That day in August of 2020 when you went to Feeding Our
15 Future?

16 A. No. The day they proven, September 14th.

17 Q. After they approved?

18 A. September 13th, actually. The day before.

19 Q. What happened on September 13th? Did you meet with
20 someone?

21 A. Yeah. Eidleh come in my place.

22 Q. S & S Catering?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. Why did Mr. Eidleh come to S & S Catering on
25 September 13th, 2020?

1 A. He said you can start tomorrow and this form you have to
2 fill up. I say I don't know. And he explained Sahra.

3 Q. Sahra Nur was at the meeting too?

4 A. Yeah, how to fill out.

5 Q. And did Sahra Nur fill it out?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. The sheets titled Summer Meal Counts Clicker, and the
8 site is S & S. That's your company S & S Catering?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And it, every day it says number of meals. This is
11 breakfast or supper, sorry, served to children 2500, 2500,
12 2500, 2500.

13 I think you said this earlier, but where did that
14 2500 number come from?

15 A. That's not true. We never served 2500. We did big
16 mistake that time and we all -- I'm not happy.

17 Q. Why aren't you happy?

18 A. Today or all my life because we did. I feel shame.

19 Even I can't --

20 Q. Ms. Hassan, why do you feel ashamed here?

21 A. Because we did wrong for the kids meal.

22 Q. What did you do wrong?

23 A. The fraud.

24 Q. Who told you to list 2500 meals every single day?

25 A. They approve us, and we say we serve, but we never

1 served.

2 Q. You never served it?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. On the bottom of this sheet there's initials QH.

5 A. That's my initial.

6 Q. Okay. Is that your signature at the bottom where it
7 says Qamar Hassan?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And you signed this certifying that this information is
10 accurate. Is it accurate?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Why did you sign it?

13 A. We not thinking straight that time.

14 Q. What were you thinking?

15 A. We just hunting money, but it's not good.

16 Q. You were hunting money?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. Is that page --

19 THE COURT: Ms. Hassan, there's a Kleenix next to
20 you, if you wish.

21 BY MR. THOMPSON:

22 Q. Ms. Hassan, as I page through this exhibit, there's a
23 meal count sheet for each week in October of 2020. They all
24 say every day 2500, 2500, 2500. Why is that?

25 A. Oh, that's not true.

1 Q. Did you ever serve 2500 meals to kids?

2 A. No.

3 Q. These sheets are all lies?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. And who said those lies?

6 A. We lie, and it's not -- we not type of party, but that
7 time we lie.

8 Q. This site at S & S Catering on Lake Street, you said
9 2500 a day, but you had additional, you opened up additional
10 food sites; is that right? You and your friends and family.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. How did that happen?

13 A. Even my daughter, my daughter, she have a site. I apply
14 for her. She never apply even.

15 Q. You helped your daughter open a site?

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. Was that site also fraudulent?

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. Why did you do that?

20 A. My daughter, she's, she divorce, and she don't have a
21 car, or she don't have anything. That time I thought I help
22 her, but I wish I never did.

23 Q. Did you actually help her?

24 A. I thought I help her that time, but --

25 Q. What happened to your daughter?

1 A. My daughter also, she have my daughter. She's mentally
2 ill, and she take medicine, and she can see me or she see me
3 always, she crack, why you do mom. She don't know what I --

4 Q. Did your daughter also plead guilty to committing fraud
5 in the food program?

6 A. Yes, she hate me for that.

7 Q. Did other friends of yours also join the program,
8 associates?

9 A. My friend Sahra, yes.

10 Q. Sahra did?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. And did you open other sites or your friends? There
13 were other sites, Ms. Hassan?

14 A. They open, and I give them food.

15 Q. Did you really give them food?

16 A. Not what they say, but they know --

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. -- also.

19 Q. Let's look at one of these other sites. I want to show
20 you now what's been marked, but not yet admitted as
21 Government Exhibit Q3.

22 And just for the record, Your Honor, this is an
23 email from Sahra Nur, using an email account
24 academyforyouthexcellence@gmail.com to Aimee at Feeding Our
25 Future, sent on January 6th of 2021.

1 And I move to admit Government Exhibit Q3.

2 THE COURT: Any objection?

3 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

4 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

5 THE COURT: Q3 is admitted.

6 BY MR. THOMPSON:

7 Q. Ms. Hassan, again I'm just going to -- I know you don't
8 read English. I'm going to just identify this for the jury.

9 This is an email sent on January 6th of 2021 from
10 Sahra Nur, and that's your friend and partner?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Ms. Bock's friend?

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. And the email address she used was
15 academyforyouthexcellence@gmail.com. What is Academy for
16 Youth Excellence?

17 A. I don't know. They have a lot of youths. I don't know
18 which one is which, but Sahra, she had a one, and my
19 daughter, she have a one.

20 Q. What were the --

21 A. And we have a lot of youths at that time.

22 Q. Ms. Hassan, when you say, "We have a lot of youths,"
23 what do you mean?

24 A. I have to bring the youths, this youth, that I don't
25 know which one is which.

1 Q. All the food program sites that were opened were called
2 youths?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Okay. The subject line of this email is Academy for
5 Youth Excellence, and I'm going to direct your attention
6 here to page 2.

7 Is this another of the meal count sheets that
8 we've seen before. Ms. Hassan? I know not this particular
9 one, but this is the type of meal count sheet that you saw?

10 A. Yeah, kind of.

11 Q. Okay. And this one for, the site is Academy for Youth
12 Excellence, sponsored by Feeding Our Future, for the week of
13 December 20th, 2020. And it says 2,492 lunches the first
14 day, then 2,483, then 2500 then 2500.

15 Similar to the numbers that you claimed at S & S
16 Catering, correct?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Was this site real, or were these numbers lies?

19 A. This one is satisfied. I think it's not real, but I'm
20 not working there.

21 Q. Okay. Let's page down then to page 6, and there's a
22 document, a Feeding Our Future document that's called SFSP
23 Delivery Receipt. The site name is Academy for Youth
24 Excellence, and that's at 309 East Lake Street?

25 Are you familiar with that address, 309 East Lake

1 Street?

2 A. Yes. Upstairs for, my kitchen is downstairs and
3 upstairs.

4 Q. That's upstairs from the kitchen at S & S Catering?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Okay. And it says here that, "After carefully checking
7 and counting meals, a delivery slip must be signed and dated
8 daily for meals sent out."

9 And it says the number of meals produced and
10 shipped 2,492 on December 23rd, 2020, and it's signed by
11 Qamar Hassan.

12 Is that your signature?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Did you actually provide and deliver 2,492 meals to
15 Academy for Youth Excellence that day?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Did you ever provide that many meals to Academy for
18 Youth Excellence?

19 A. No.

20 Q. If I page through here to page 7 is another similar form
21 delivery receipt for the following day, December 24th, 2020,
22 and it says, it has your signature saying that you delivered
23 2,483 meals to Academy for Youth Excellence on December 24th
24 of 2020.

25 Did you actually do that?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Page 8. Similar delivery receipt purporting to show
3 that you delivered 2,500 meals to Academy for Youth
4 Excellence on December 25th, 2020, Christmas Day.

5 Did you actually do that?

6 A. No, I never did it.

7 Q. Why did you sign this?

8 A. Usually they give me a lot of paper, and they say sign
9 and I sign. I don't know what they going for.

10 Q. You just signed them without looking at them?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. And that's -- on the right hand there's a signature
13 under number of meals received, and it looks like it says
14 Sahra Nur. That's your friend and partner?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And if I page through here, it looks like every day
17 going forward till the end of December 2020, there's your
18 signature saying you delivered 2500 meals to Academy for
19 Youth Excellence each day.

20 Did that actually happen?

21 A. No.

22 Q. And actually it says you did it twice a day. Once in
23 the morning here, 7:18 a.m., on New Year's Eve,
24 December 31st, and then later at 2:31 in the afternoon.

25 Did either of those things happen?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Not true. I'm going to show you now what's been marked
3 but not yet admitted as Government Exhibit Q7. And this is
4 an email. It actually looks like it's faxed to Feeding Our
5 Future or from a Feeding Our Future fax machine to Hani
6 Mohamed, a Feeding Our Future employee, on June 2nd, 2021.

7 And, Your Honor, I move to admit Government
8 Exhibit Q7.

9 THE COURT: Any objection?

10 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

11 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

12 THE COURT: Q7 is admitted.

13 BY MR. THOMPSON:

14 Q. All right. Ms. Nur -- this email sent from Hani Mohamed
15 to the claims at Feeding Our Future account on June 2nd,
16 2021, it says Academy for Youth Excellence. And as I page
17 through to page 4 of Government Exhibit Q7, there's meal
18 count forms attached to it.

19 And again, this is meal counts here on page 4 for
20 Academy for Youth Excellence for the week of May 2nd, 2021.
21 And it says 5,000 meals every single day, signed by Sahra
22 Nur. And that Academy for Youth Excellence, that's the site
23 that purported to be upstairs of S & S Catering.

24 Did that actually happen, 5,000 meals a day?

25 A. No, it didn't.

1 Q. And they continue every week of May.

2 At page 7, the week of May 9th, 2021, 5,000 meals
3 prepared and served every single day of the week all seven
4 days. Did that happen?

5 A. Not that much, no.

6 Q. The week of May 16th, the same thing, 5,000 a day. Week
7 of May 23rd 5,000 a day exactly prepared and received at
8 Academy for Youth Excellence?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Now, Ms. Hassan, you said earlier that Safari Restaurant
11 was located one block away from S & S Catering; is that
12 right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Does that mean it was also one block away --

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. -- from the Academy for Youth Excellence?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Do you know how many meals they claimed to be serving at
19 Safari Restaurant every day? Were you told that ever?

20 A. Eidleh called me that day, but I never --

21 THE COURT: Wait. Wait.

22 MR. MONTEZ: The objection was for hearsay.

23 THE COURT: Wait. Wait.

24 Overruled.

25

1 BY MR. THOMPSON:

2 Q. Ms. Hassan?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What did Eidleh tell you about the number of meals that
5 Safari Restaurant claimed to be serving?

6 A. Say 5,000.

7 Q. Every day?

8 A. That's what he told me that day when I apply.

9 Q. The same number that Academy for Youth Excellence
10 claimed to be serving each day in May of 2021?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. I'm directing your attention now to page 14 of
13 Government Exhibit Q7. And there's another, a series of
14 delivery receipts for the Academy for Youth Excellence site.

15 And again, there's one for each day of May 2021,
16 and it has you signing saying that you carefully checked and
17 counted and shipped exactly 5,000 suppers and 5,000 snacks
18 to Academy for Youth Excellence each day in May of 2021.

19 Is that true?

20 A. Not 5,000, no.

21 Q. Why did you say that?

22 A. Because the food we have there is not 5,000, like couple
23 hundred maybe they can give, but not 5,000.

24 Q. Maybe you actually served a couple hundred meals?

25 A. Yeah, that time, but not --

1 Q. Could you ever have done 5,000?

2 A. No.

3 Q. Why not?

4 A. Because we don't have these people. This, all this
5 people, they never come there.

6 Q. That many people never came to get food?

7 A. Yeah. One day, no.

8 Q. I'm just paging through here, Government Exhibit Q7.

9 Now I'm directing your attention to page 30 of
10 Government Exhibit Q7. And there's an invoice attached to
11 this email that purports to be from S & S Catering. That's
12 your company, Ms. Hassan?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And it says, "Billed to Academy for Youth Excellence."
15 That's one of the sites.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. At 309 East Lake Street, Suite 200.

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. That's the --

20 A. The office.

21 Q. -- office rights upstairs from your --

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. -- your S & S Catering?

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. Now, you describe it as an office. Can you describe

1 what that Suite 200 looks like?

2 A. A small office like -- a small office.

3 Q. A small office, like a business office?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. And each day here on this invoice, it purports to show
6 that S & S Catering served or delivered 5,000 suppers and
7 5,000 snacks each day in May of 2021; is that true?

8 A. No.

9 Q. And each day it bills a total of \$19,000?

10 A. No, but I never see this receipt before.

11 Q. You've never seen this receipt before?

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. Is this invoice real?

14 A. What?

15 Q. The numbers on this invoice, are they real?

16 A. No, it's not real, but this look like paper I never see.

17 Q. Looks like a paper you've never seen?

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. And I'm going to direct your attention to the bottom of
20 page 32 of Government Exhibit Q7. And the total amount
21 billed by S & S Catering, your company, for food purportedly
22 delivered and distributed at the Academy for Youth
23 Excellence site that month is \$589,000.

24 Is that right, Ms. Hassan? That's a lot of money.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Is that how much you were giving your company every
2 month?

3 A. Some months its different, but close, yeah.

4 Q. Should you have gotten that much money every month from
5 that site?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. You should have?

8 A. It's different, like, like some months these, some
9 months not.

10 Q. Some months were more, some months were less?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. Okay. Well, let's look at that. I'm going to show you
13 now what's been marked but not yet admitted as Government
14 Exhibit Q9. And this is a, I believe, a fax from a Feeding
15 Our Future email account to the claims at Feeding Our Future
16 account on August 11th of 2021 and attached are a series of
17 meal counts.

18 Your Honor, I move to admit Government Exhibit Q9.

19 THE COURT: Any objection?

20 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

21 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

22 THE COURT: Q9 is admitted.

23 BY MR. THOMPSON:

24 Q. And, Ms. Hassan, just for the record, this email was
25 sent on August 11th of 2021. And there's an attachment, and

1 it's from noreply@feedourfuture.org to
2 claims@feedingourfuturemn.org?

3 And directing your attention to page 2, there's
4 more meal counts for Academy for Youth Excellence, this time
5 for February of 2021, signed by Sahra Nur. That's your
6 business partner?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. And it says number of meals received and prepared,
9 exactly 5,000 every day. Did that actually happen?

10 A. No.

11 Q. And as I page through, for every week of March 2021,
12 there's a meal count sheet showing exactly 5,000 snacks a
13 day.

14 A. No.

15 Q. And 5,000 suppers a day. That didn't happen?

16 A. No, it's not.

17 Q. Okay. Well, you anticipated my next question, because
18 at page 12 there's a series of site delivery receipts
19 purporting to show that each day you made two deliveries or
20 made a delivery of 5,000 suppers and 5,000 snacks to that
21 Academy for Youth Excellence site on the second floor of
22 your building.

23 Did that actually happen?

24 A. What we deliver, we at same place together.

25 Q. Okay.

1 A. We not delivering it.

2 Q. You didn't deliver it?

3 A. Yeah, because we at same building.

4 Q. You didn't prepare it either?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Not true?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. Why did you sign these forms?

9 A. The forms always, I don't read, I don't write, and when
10 they -- my partner bring me, I sign.

11 Q. Who's your partner that brought those forms to you to
12 sign?

13 A. Sahra.

14 Q. Sahra. I'm going to page through this exhibit. See
15 each day there's a delivery receipt, and then starting at
16 page 28 there's another S & S Catering invoice dated
17 March 31st, 2021.

18 Have you ever seen this invoice before,
19 Ms. Hassan?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Okay. That's your company S & S Catering, though,
22 correct?

23 A. I see that, yeah.

24 Q. Okay. And it's billing, the invoice is billed to
25 Academy for Youth Excellence. That's Sahra Nur's site on

1 the second floor; is that correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Okay. And again, it's billing \$19,000 a day in March of
4 2021 for delivering 5,000 suppers and 5,000 snacks; is that
5 right?

6 That didn't happen?

7 A. No, it didn't happen.

8 Q. And then based on this, your company S & S Catering
9 billed \$589,000 for meals purportedly prepared and
10 distributed at that Academy for Youth Excellence site in the
11 month of March of 2021.

12 That didn't actually happen?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Okay. I'm going to show you another email about another
15 site, because there were other sites; is that right?

16 A. Yeah, we have other sites.

17 Q. You said a lot of them were called or had youths in the
18 name?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. I'd like to show you what's been marked but not yet
21 admitted as Government Exhibit Q6. And this is an email
22 from Abdul Ali to claims at Feeding Our Future.

23 Do you know Abdul Ali?

24 A. Abdul Ali?

25 Q. Yes.

1 A. No. Maybe I know, but I know his face maybe. The
2 names --

3 Q. The company this relates to is Youth Inventors Lab. Are
4 you familiar with that company?

5 A. It's one of our sites.

6 Q. One of your sites.

7 Okay. Your Honor, I move to admit Government
8 Exhibit Q6.

9 THE COURT: Any objection?

10 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

11 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

12 THE COURT: Q6 is admitted.

13 BY MR. THOMPSON:

14 Q. Ms. Hassan, this is an email from Abdul Ali to claims at
15 Feeding Our Future and Farhia at Feeding Our Future. The
16 subject is March claims YIL.

17 And it says, "Please find the attached documents
18 for March claims, roster, meal count, menu."

19 And starting on page 2, there's another one of
20 these invoices from S & S Catering, your company, correct?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. And this one is billed to Youth Inventors Lab, and it's
23 at 2434 University Avenue in St. Paul?

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. Again, you said that was, Youth Inventors Lab was one of

1 the sites you guys had?

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. And it says here that each day in March of 2021 that S &
4 S Catering delivered 4,950 lunches and 4,950 breakfasts.

5 Did that actually happen?

6 Did you do that?

7 A. No.

8 Q. You billed over between 18 and 19 thousand dollars a day
9 for those meals; is that accurate?

10 A. No.

11 Q. And based on that, those deliveries, the total invoice
12 from your company S & S Catering for meals purportedly
13 delivered to the Youth Inventors Lab site was \$583,000 for
14 that one month alone; is that right?

15 A. Yeah. I see that.

16 Q. Okay. There's some menus attached here. It says for
17 the snack, string cheese, Goldfish Crackers and one percent
18 milk.

19 Did you deliver that 5,000 of those a day to Youth
20 Inventors Lab in March of 2021?

21 A. No.

22 Q. How about red beans, oranges, onions and rice for a
23 supper?

24 A. No.

25 Q. And then starting at page 12, there's more meal counts.

1 And again it says for Youth Inventors Lab, and starting the
2 week of February 28th, 2021, that the site served exactly
3 4,950 snacks and suppers every single day.

4 Did that happen, Ms. Hassan?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Why did you and Ms. Nur and family members say this?

7 A. This company's -- this is Sahra friend, and I don't know
8 the beginning. This, I see after one months. When they get
9 the check, only I see them.

10 Q. Someone, you saw the check?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. How big was the check?

13 A. It's a big check.

14 Q. Big check?

15 A. Yeah.

16 Q. Who showed it to you?

17 A. The one guy, Abdul, he bring us.

18 Q. He brought the check to you?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. You and Ms. Nur?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. And those meal counts, just for the record, continue day
23 after day 4,950.

24 All right. I'd like to show you another series
25 of, or another email. Okay? Ms. Hassan?

1 A. Okay.

2 Q. And this has been marked but not yet admitted as
3 Government Exhibit Q8. And this is an email from your email
4 address, Qamar Hassan, to hani@feedingourfuturemn.org on
5 January 9, 2021.

6 Your Honor, I move to admit Government Exhibit Q8.

7 THE COURT: Any objection?

8 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

9 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

10 THE COURT: Q8 is admitted.

11 BY MR. THOMPSON:

12 Q. Ms. Hassan, again that's that email address that
13 belonged to you, fido7177@gmail.com; is that right?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Okay. And the subject line is April and May Invoices
16 for four companies, sent on June 9th, 2021, and there's a
17 series of attachments titled Invoice.

18 And I want to walk through those invoices. Okay?

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. First, starting at page 2, there's an invoice from S & S
21 Catering, your company, correct, you and Ms. Sahra Nur?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And it's to Advance Youth Athletic Development. Are you
24 familiar with that company?

25 A. Yeah.

1 Q. What is it?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. What is it?

4 A. For youth, what youth.

5 Q. Another one of the youths?

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. One of the sites?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. Do you know where it was located?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Did you actually distribute -- the invoice says that you
12 distributed 5,000 suppers and 5,000 snacks, or your company
13 did, every day in April of 2021.

14 Is that true?

15 A. Nope.

16 Q. Not true?

17 A. Not 5,000.

18 Q. And it's billing \$19,000 a day to the Federal Child
19 Nutrition Program. Was that, should you have done that?

20 A. No, I'm not supposed to done that.

21 Q. Why did you do it?

22 A. I sorry for that.

23 Q. You are sorry for that?

24 A. Feel shame every day, yeah.

25 Q. And this invoice from your company S & S Catering to

1 Advance Youth Athletic Development bills a total of \$570,000
2 to the Federal Child Nutrition Program for that one month of
3 April 2021 alone; is that correct?

4 A. For this company?

5 Q. Yes. Can you read that number?

6 A. I see the number, but --

7 Q. Why are you shaking your head?

8 A. I see the number, but I even -- I don't know this
9 company who belonged and --

10 Q. You don't even know whose company that is?

11 A. Yeah. But I know it's got a lot of youths we have.
12 Maybe one of them.

13 Q. At page 5 of Government Exhibit Q8, there's another
14 invoice from your company to another youth company.

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. They get a little confusing. The last one was Advance
17 Youth Athletic Development. This one is to a company called
18 Academy for Youth Excellence.

19 That's Sahra Nur's site; is that right?

20 A. Yeah, it is 309, Sahra site.

21 Q. And this invoice says you did 5,000 suppers and 5,000
22 snacks every day in April 2021 to the Academy for Youth
23 Excellence site upstairs.

24 Is that true?

25 A. No, it's not.

1 Q. And based on that invoice, you billed the Federal Child
2 Nutrition Program \$570,000 that month; is that right?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. Yes?

5 A. I'm sorry of this.

6 Q. At page 8 there is another invoice from your company S &
7 S Catering for that month April 2021, and this one is for
8 food purportedly distributed to another youth site called
9 Youth For Higher Educational Achievements.

10 And it says that you delivered 4,388 suppers and
11 4,388 snacks to that site every single day in April of 2021.
12 Did you and your company S & S Catering do that?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Are you familiar with this site?

15 A. Not actually. It's 307?

16 Q. That's your company. There's no address for Youth For
17 Higher Education.

18 Do you know?

19 A. This company I don't know it's --

20 Q. You don't even --

21 A. There's a lot of youths. I don't know which is which,
22 but this is one of our.

23 Q. I guess it didn't really matter because the numbers were
24 fake.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And this one for April 2021, you billed a total of just
2 over half a million dollars, \$500,232, from the meals that
3 you claimed were provided at Youth For Higher Educational
4 Achievements.

5 Not true, though, right?

6 A. No, it's not.

7 Q. Page 11 there's another invoice from S & S Catering.
8 And this one is to Feeding Our Future; is that right?

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. And again for the month of April 2021. Ms. Hassan, what
11 is Feeding Our Future?

12 A. What's Feeding Our Future?

13 Q. Yeah.

14 A. The office we get the money.

15 Q. Office where you get the money?

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. Whose company is it?

18 A. The Aimee office.

19 Q. Aimee's?

20 A. Yeah.

21 Q. Aimee Bock's?

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. The invoice here from your company, your and Sahra Nur's
24 company, S & S Catering, is build to Feeding Our Future, and
25 it's for the delivery of 87,000 supper and snacks in April

1 of 2021.

2 Do you know what this invoice is for or what it's
3 all about?

4 A. They're not true.

5 Q. It's not true?

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. The invoice is for \$558,540. It's a big invoice?

8 A. It's not true.

9 Q. Not true.

10 This email that you submitted to Feeding Our
11 Future contains more invoices from May of 2021, and this one
12 is S & S Catering, your company, to Youth Higher Educational
13 Achievement, again exactly 4,388 meals, suppers and snacks,
14 each day of May 2021 from your company to Youth Higher
15 Educational Achievement.

16 Did that happen?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Are you familiar with Youth Higher Educational
19 Achievement?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. How so?

22 A. It's my daughter.

23 Q. That's your daughter's company?

24 A. Yeah, Filsan.

25 Q. And that invoice bills the food program for \$516,906 for

1 that month of May 2021, for meals you didn't actually
2 distribute, correct?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. There's more here. Starting on page 15, invoice from
5 S & S Catering to Advance Youth Athletic Development. Are
6 you familiar with that one?

7 A. No.

8 Q. It's in northeast Minneapolis. Do you know whose site
9 that was?

10 A. Yes, I know.

11 Q. Whose site?

12 A. Guhaad Said site.

13 Q. Guhaad Said?

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. Who is he?

16 A. One of people working with us.

17 Q. Working with you what? Working with you how?

18 A. He has a site and we, we provide him food.

19 Q. Okay. Did you actually deliver 5,000 suppers and 5,000
20 snacks to his site every day in May of 2021?

21 A. No. I'm not deliver him, but he take some, but it's not
22 5,000 a day.

23 Q. Why did he claim 5,000 a day?

24 A. I don't know.

25 Q. Is why did you claim 5,000 a day?

1 A. I did a lot of mistake, I know, but --

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. 80 percent of this job I don't get, but I feel shame and
4 sorry what I did, but --

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. The paper is mostly I don't do.

7 Q. You didn't do most of these papers?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. Okay. You knew they were being done, correct?

10 A. I sign. I know how, what they do on everything, but
11 mostly work I don't did.

12 Q. Okay. Ms. Hassan, I want to talk to you a little bit
13 about other invoices. Were there other fake invoices that
14 you and the others obtained for use in this fraud scheme?

15 A. What you say again?

16 Q. Did you get other fake invoices?

17 A. Fake invoices?

18 Q. Mm-hmm. From any other companies?

19 A. No, not other.

20 Q. Not other?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. Are you familiar with a company called U.S. Halal?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. How so?

25 A. We get a lot of food over there and, but we get some

1 invoices.

2 Q. What do you mean you got some invoices from U.S. Halal?

3 A. Some not real one and some is real.

4 Q. Okay. Some of the invoices were real?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. For food that you actually purchased?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. You said some of the invoices were not real.

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. Could you explain that?

11 A. Well, you get a lot of foods, and they give you like
12 it's competition for the, like, like U.S. Halal and the
13 others, like wholesale. And you get a lot of food. This
14 one, he can give you more invoice.

15 Q. Why did you want -- so an invoice for more food than you
16 actually purchased. Is that what you mean?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. Why would you want an invoice from U.S. Halal foods
19 showing more food than you actually purchased?

20 A. Because we know we don't have enough receipts.

21 Q. You don't have enough receipts for what?

22 A. For the food that we have.

23 Q. You didn't actually buy enough food --

24 A. Yeah.

25 Q. -- to serve the meals?

1 How did you know that you could get those receipts
2 from U.S. Halal?

3 A. Some people work there, and they tell us --

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. -- you get foods for us, we can give you more receipts.

6 Q. Ms. Hassan, how much money did you and your family and
7 friends make from the food program?

8 A. We bring a lot of money, but we don't have anymore.

9 Q. The government took it all back?

10 A. Yeah.

11 Q. Okay. Did a lot of other people -- you said early on
12 when you joined the food program that people had talked
13 about making a lot of money for it -- from it; is that
14 right?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What did you hear about?

17 A. The people, they buy houses and cars and everything.

18 Q. People in the food program?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. At some point did the, that money stop, the food program
21 money?

22 A. It stop for what?

23 Q. Was there a time when that money wasn't being paid?

24 A. Yes. The time for -- government stop, and it still, we
25 give them the kids, because Aimee tell us still you can give

1 them. And after, we can, after the court, maybe, we can
2 give you back the money.

3 Q. Okay. So there was a court issue?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. Who was involved in that court issue. You said
6 Ms. Bock?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. And what happened during that court issue?

9 A. She win after couple courts.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. And after that we give her party.

12 Q. You gave her a party?

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. Who held a party for -- and you gave a party to Aimee
15 Bock?

16 A. Yeah. We, we have party for Aimee for the
17 congratulations for what you did.

18 Q. What were you congratulating Ms. Bock for?

19 A. Because the food still, she win the court, and we need
20 more money.

21 Q. Were you happy for the kids when she won the court
22 hearing?

23 A. No.

24 Q. What were you and everyone else that threw this party
25 happy for?

1 A. For the money.

2 Q. All right. Where was that party hosted? Where did it

3 occur?

4 A. Benadir Hall.

5 Q. It's B-E-N-A-D-I-R Hall?

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. What's Benadir Hall?

8 A. So 309 East Lake Street.

9 Q. And who owns that building?

10 A. We own that time.

11 Q. Who is "we"?

12 A. Me and Sahra.

13 Q. And how did you and Sahra Nur come to own that building

14 at 301 Lake Street?

15 A. The food money.

16 Q. You bought it with the food money?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Did it cost a lot of money?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. How much, roughly?

21 A. 5 million.

22 Q. \$5 million?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. It's like a whole block on East Lake Street, correct?

25 A. Yeah.

1 Q. Whole city block?

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. About two miles from here?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. There's a video of this celebration for Ms. Bock; is
6 that right?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. I'm going to show you now what's been marked, but not
9 yet admitted, as Government Exhibit BB37a.

10 Your Honor, I'm going to try to do this correctly.
11 I'm going to try to start this --

12 MR. UDOIBOK: What did you say?

13 MR. THOMPSON: It's BB37A.

14 Your Honor, I'm just going to move to admit this
15 because it's kind of hard to show it without playing it.

16 THE COURT: Any objection?

17 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

18 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

19 THE COURT: BB37a is admitted and may be
20 published.

21 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 Ms. Hassan, this video has sound; is that right?
23 We've watched this video before.

24 THE WITNESS: What video? Yes.
25

1 BY MR. THOMPSON:

2 Q. Okay. I've started it here. And first off, it says
3 Benadir Hall banquet, Mpls.

4 What's Benadir Hall?

5 A. The hall is like traditional hall like Benadir.

6 Q. Benadir is a region near Mogadishu?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And what's Benadir Hall?

9 A. Benadir Hall, like it's additional hall, like hall is
10 body hall.

11 Q. Like a banquet hall?

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. Okay. And that's where this party happened?

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. When did this party happen?

16 A. I don't know exactly the day, but that where she's,
17 Aimee win the court.

18 Q. When Aimee won the court hearing?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. And what was the effect of Ms. Bock winning her court
21 hearing against the Department of Education?

22 A. They say they stopped the food, and Aimee, she not --
23 she fight for it.

24 Q. And what happened after she won that fight?

25 A. They say continue.

1 Q. What did you, what did you continue to do then?

2 A. For the food and the money.

3 Q. The fraud?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. And was it only you? Were there many people that did
6 this?

7 A. Many people like me.

8 Q. How many?

9 A. A lot of people.

10 Q. Not just your friends and family. Others too?

11 A. Yeah.

12 (Video recording played)

13 Q. I'm going to skip ahead here a little.

14 (Video recording played)

15 Q. Now there's a, there's a chant or a song happening.
16 What kind of song is that?

17 A. It's a Somalia song.

18 Q. Okay. And what is there like a, does the song have
19 meaning?

20 A. It's good Aimee.

21 Q. What was that?

22 A. Like sweet, like it's English, like giving Aimee, like,
23 sweetest -- we know sweet, and they call Aimee. It's a
24 Somalian song and they call proper.

25 Q. She's being honored?

1 A. Yeah.

2 (Video recording played)

3 Q. Were you at this party?

4 A. Yes, I'm cooking for that day.

5 (Video recording played)

6 Q. Was Ms. Nur at the party?

7 A. What you say?

8 Q. Sahra Nur?

9 A. Yeah, she's there.

10 Q. Okay.

11 (Video recording played)

12 Q. Ms. Hassan, why is everyone so excited at the party?

13 A. Everyone, they need for the food. They collecting
14 money.

15 Q. Were they excited for the children?

16 A. No. They excited by themselves.

17 Q. By themselves?

18 A. This get the money.

19 Q. To get the money?

20 A. Yeah.

21 (Video recording played)

22 Q. Who is in the white over here?

23 A. What?

24 Q. Who is this woman here?

25 A. Sahra Nur.

1 Q. And at the end, there's an award given. I'm going to
2 skip ahead to about six minutes in.

3 (Video recording played)

4 Q. Ms. Bock is given an award or some sort of plaque?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. What was that for?

7 A. I'm not sure. I'm not there that time.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. But they kind of gift, something like that.

10 Q. A gift?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. Ms. Hassan, did you have other interactions with Aimee
13 Bock?

14 A. What you say?

15 Q. Did you have other interactions with Aimee Bock?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Who generally dealt with her or talked to her?

18 A. Sahra always.

19 Q. How often?

20 A. Like what if something wrong or some check is missing,
21 she would go there.

22 Q. She would go there?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. At any point did Sahra ask you to pay any money to
25 Ms. Bock?

1 A. No.

2 Q. A donation?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Tell me about the donation.

5 A. 2,000 something dollar on everyone. They give donation
6 for the, all youth program.

7 Q. Okay. Let's take that back a second. Who asked you to
8 make a donation to Ms. Bock?

9 A. Sahra.

10 Q. What did she tell you?

11 A. She say everyone give Aimee donation. The every youth
12 we have, they give check for 2,000 something. I'm not sure
13 how much.

14 Q. Okay. You say every youth had to give a check.

15 A. Like my daughter, Sahra, my kitchen, everything.

16 Q. Everyone had to give a check to Aimee?

17 A. Yeah.

18 Q. Did you give a check?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Why?

21 A. Sahra told me everyone give 2,000 something for the
22 Aimee youth for donation.

23 Q. When you say "everyone," what do you mean "everyone"?

24 A. Everyone like, she told me that I'm everyone, and also
25 like her, her youth gift. And my daughter she give one, and

1 I hear couple others other places give them.

2 Q. What other? What do you mean other places, what do you
3 mean?

4 A. Like, like Guhaad, like, like -- that time seems like
5 everyone they give her, her like 2,000 something for the
6 donation.

7 Q. Why didn't you say no?

8 A. I don't want to say no because if I say no I'm losing
9 foods.

10 Q. What do you mean you losing? Losing food?

11 A. Losing the money.

12 Q. What do you think would happen if you refused to give
13 the donation to Ms. Bock?

14 A. That time I'm thinking like that. If I say no, I'm not
15 getting more money for the, more than for the \$2,000 I'm
16 losing.

17 Q. For the food program?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Okay. One moment.

20 MR. THOMPSON: No further questions, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Udoibok, cross-examination.

22 MR. UDOIBOK: Yes, Your Honor.

23 CROSS-EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

25 Q. Ms. Hassan, my name is Kenneth Udoibok. Have we ever

1 met?

2 A. No.

3 Q. And I'm sorry. I take it you have met Ms. Bock, right?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. All right. And I represent Ms. Bock.

6 How many times have you met Ms. Bock?

7 A. Personally two times.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. But --

10 Q. I'm sorry. Go ahead.

11 A. Personally two times, and also a lot of times for when I
12 go like, like both times, or when I go the office and get
13 checks, I can see her around. But two times personally.

14 Q. All right. I know you, when you go to Feeding Our
15 Future office --

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. -- you would see Ms. Bock around, but what I want to
18 know is how many times -- take your time to think. I know
19 this is stressful.

20 Just think really hard how many times have you met
21 Ms. Bock?

22 A. Two times.

23 Q. Two times. Does that two times include the celebration?

24 A. No.

25 Q. So the celebration would have been another time?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. I just want to talk a bit about December 13, 2022. Do
3 you remember that day?

4 A. December?

5 Q. Yeah, December 13, 2022. Was there any time that you
6 met with lawyers from the United States Attorney's Office?

7 A. December?

8 Q. Yeah.

9 A. 2022?

10 Q. Yes.

11 A. Yes. That time I -- December or September?

12 Q. December 13, 2022?

13 A. December? December.

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. Okay. Yeah, that time we -- in the jail, right?

16 Q. Did you, did you, do you recall going to, having a
17 meeting at the U.S. Attorney's Office in Minneapolis here or
18 maybe I can --

19 A. Not remember that.

20 Q. Okay. How about do you recall being interviewed by
21 members of the U.S. Attorney's Office?

22 A. For here?

23 Q. About this case.

24 A. I don't remember that.

25 Q. Do you remember a meeting with one of the lawyers here?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. All right. I know you don't know their names. And one
3 of those meetings, do you remember a special agent, FBI
4 agent, being there?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. I'm not sure what you talking about.

8 Q. I will try. It's complicated.

9 A. Thank you.

10 Q. All right. You have had more than one meeting. Let me
11 use the FBI. You had more than one meeting?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. All right. And when, if you can recall, was the first
14 time you met with FBI agent?

15 A. My home.

16 Q. At your home. What year was that?

17 A. 20 -- 20 -- January 20th.

18 Q. January 20th, 2022?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. Okay. The date doesn't matter. That was the first
21 time, correct?

22 And the agent, was it a man or a woman?

23 A. Man.

24 Q. And --

25 A. Or woman too. There's a lot of people. I don't know

1 which one is FBI.

2 Q. There were a lot of them at your home, right?

3 A. Yeah, yeah.

4 Q. And you talked to them, didn't you?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. All right. Did you have your lawyer present at that
7 first meeting?

8 A. No.

9 Q. All right. And did you, did you tell the truth to the
10 FBI agent the first meeting now?

11 A. No. That day I'm confused and I am scared.

12 Q. Yes. And plus you have, I know you speak English, but
13 it was a little complicated, right?

14 A. Yeah.

15 Q. All right. And then after that meeting you had another
16 meeting with FBI, correct?

17 A. No.

18 Q. You never met with FBI again.

19 A. I meet when I say guilty, like meeting for my lawyer
20 with me.

21 Q. So I'm trying to find out. So before you went to the
22 judge and pled guilty, you met with the FBI?

23 A. For where?

24 Q. All right. How many times did you meet with the FBI?

25 A. A lot of times after my home but --

1 Q. A lot of times?

2 A. -- with my lawyer.

3 Q. All right. How many times did you meet with FBI with
4 your lawyer present with you?

5 A. Two times, I think.

6 Q. Two times, but it could be more?

7 A. I think two times.

8 Q. Okay. Well, I want to -- I have notes.

9 A. I think. I'm not sure, but it's two times I think.

10 Q. All right. I have notes that were written, I'll call it
11 notes, call it, too, that have been disclosed to us about
12 your meeting with the government. Okay?

13 I want -- is that a yes? Is that okay that -- can
14 I ask you questions about this?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. All right. Now, do you recall telling the FBI that
17 Mr. Eidleh was the one that you were dealing with at Feeding
18 Our Future? Do you recall that?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. All right. And in fact you went to Feeding Our Future
21 and you went to Ms. Bock's office at Feeding Our Future.
22 That's correct, right?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. All right. And during that meeting, Ms. Bock asked
25 Eidleh to join in the meeting. That's correct, right?

1 A. No.

2 Q. All right. When did Mr. Eidleh come to your meeting
3 with Ms. Bock?

4 A. Me and Sahra and Aimee we in the office, and she called
5 Eidleh.

6 Q. Yes.

7 A. And Eidleh and me, we go in another office.

8 Q. Yes.

9 A. And Sahra and Aimee the other office.

10 Q. All right. So that's, that's actually accurate from
11 what I have here.

12 So you went to Ms. Bock's office, and you wanted
13 to join the food program, correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Ms. Bock wasn't the one that called you to come to her
16 office, correct?

17 A. No.

18 Q. All right. And you had heard that people were making
19 money in the food program?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Were those mainly Somalians that you heard this from?

22 A. Yes, Somali.

23 Q. When you met with Ms. Bock at her office, did she speak
24 Somali?

25 A. Yes. No, English.

1 Q. She spoke English?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Have you ever spoken Somali with Ms. Bock?

4 A. Actually I don't talk to her, Ms. Bock, but my friend,
5 my partner Sahra, she told Aimee and she told Qamar she need
6 food program, she have kitchen, catering. And after that
7 that where we start.

8 Q. Okay. I realize. I just want to make sure I understand
9 you. I think you are clear, but I want to make sure the
10 court and the jury understand what you are saying.

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. Your friend Ms. Nur --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- spoke with Ms. Bock, correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. All right. About the, all of the food program issues,
17 correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. All right. And the first day you met with Ms. Bock, she
20 handed you over to Eidleh, who works at Feeding Our Future,
21 correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. All right. And who helped you fill out the initial, the
24 first application to join Feeding Our Future?

25 A. Eidleh.

1 Q. All right. When Eidleh meet with you, does he speak
2 English with you or speak Somali?

3 A. Somali.

4 Q. All right. And Eidleh is Somalian, right?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. And you were comfortable with Eidleh, weren't you?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And you were also comfortable with Ms. Nur, aren't you?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. She is Somalian?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. All right. And you in partnership with Ms. Nur,
13 correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Does Ms. Nur speak good English?

16 A. More than me, yeah.

17 Q. More than you. Is she more educated than you?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. All right. Okay. And you were just following whatever
20 she was doing, right?

21 A. Mostly, yeah.

22 Q. And Nur will, will visit Feeding Our Future. You didn't
23 go with her, did you?

24 A. Sometime I go with her, but mostly she go herself.

25 Q. She would go herself. And when you go, when you go with

1 her to Feeding Our Future, you don't, you no longer meet
2 with Ms. Bock, though. You deal with someone else, correct?

3 A. Can you say again?

4 Q. So when you and Ms. Nur go to Feeding Our Future
5 building?

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. All right. You were not talking to Ms. Bock. You were
8 talking to Feeding Our Future other employees, correct?

9 A. Mostly I don't there, but when I go there, I just pick
10 it up the front reception, picking up the checks, something
11 like that.

12 Q. Oh, you go picking up the checks?

13 A. Yeah.

14 Q. And you are not dealing with Ms. Bock anymore?

15 A. Yeah.

16 Q. I'm going to go through the exhibits but just not right
17 now. I want to just get a sense.

18 And I believe when you met with -- let me see
19 whether you agree with this.

20 In the initial meeting with Ms. Bock, the first
21 meeting --

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. -- Ms. Bock told you the, the size of the food you
24 should be able to deliver, correct?

25 A. I --

1 Q. No. Let me use -- I'm confusing you. I'm sorry.

2 So you know Safari, right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Safari is close to S & S, correct?

5 A. Yes, one block.

6 Q. And you testified earlier that you couldn't supply
7 breakfast and lunch, correct?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. Because Safari was already supplying breakfast and
10 lunch, correct?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And that you can do dinner --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- right? And in your meal count is written supper,
15 correct?

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. Okay. And the reason -- that was okay with you, right,
18 to just do supper?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. It was some money you were going to get, right?

21 A. Yeah.

22 Q. When you met with Eidleh the first time, did he tell you
23 that you should start doing the scam right away?

24 A. He don't tell me scam right away, but he told me you can
25 start 1,000 meals, but up to 2,500.

1 Q. Yeah, so you can start now with 5,000 -- 1,000. And
2 later, you know, based on experience and ability, you can
3 scale it up, correct? You can increase?

4 A. 1,000 to start to 2,500.

5 Q. And you also told the officers -- well, let me, let me
6 ask you this.

7 Were you afraid of Ms. Nur? Were you afraid of
8 her?

9 A. Not afraid.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. But I, like she's older than me, and she help me with
12 the money to open the place. That's why I give her like
13 respect.

14 Q. You respect her because, you know, she's older than you
15 and she may have -- does she have more money than you?

16 A. What did you say?

17 Q. Does she have more money than you?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. All right. Was there any time in your life before you
20 joined the food program that you got a half a million dollar
21 check?

22 A. Never.

23 Q. Never. And it was nice, the money was nice, right?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. It took care of a lot of things?

1 A. Yep.

2 Q. Did you buy anything with it?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. What did you buy?

5 A. Buildings.

6 Q. Buildings. Did you tell Aimee that you were buying
7 buildings, Aimee Bock, that you were buying buildings?

8 A. No.

9 Q. All right. I want to go to another meeting --

10 Oh, by the way, at some point, though, in April --
11 do you remember April 2021?

12 A. Yeah.

13 Q. What, what is significant about April 2021?

14 All right. Were you -- did Feeding Our Future
15 terminate S & S?

16 A. Oh, yes.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. The food for the dinner.

19 Q. All right. And because, was there a time that Feeding
20 Our Future staff called you for inspection?

21 A. They always come every month.

22 Q. All right. And, and did you ever tell them that your
23 numbers were not good numbers?

24 A. They can see. They know. We don't have that many food
25 when they inspect.

1 Q. I know, but did you tell them though the numbers are not
2 real?

3 A. They have a brain. I don't have to talk.

4 Q. Oh, so you believed they knew, but you never told them
5 that the numbers are wrong.

6 A. If I say 5,000 or 10,000 a day, and I don't have the
7 food for the place they supposed to pack.

8 Q. Yeah?

9 A. They have a brain. They can see that.

10 Q. All right. They have a brain. They can see that.

11 But those, those people that came too your store
12 was not Aimee Bock, though, was it?

13 A. No, but her employee.

14 Q. All right. Now I want to ask you -- you were, you were
15 catering services, correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And I think you testified earlier that you worked
18 primarily in the kitchen, correct?

19 A. What did you say?

20 Q. You worked in the kitchen?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. To prepare the food?

23 A. Yeah.

24 Q. And that Nur wasn't experienced in preparing food, so
25 you prepared the food, right?

1 A. No. Actually the -- I, a lot of people worked there,
2 not only me.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. But I tell them preparing this and preparing that, but
5 it's not near for 5,000 or 2,000.

6 Q. Was there any Feeding Our Future staff that worked at
7 your site?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. How many?

10 A. Two.

11 Q. Two of them. And you didn't think they did a good job,
12 did they? They didn't work a lot.

13 A. No. They come, and like the first month two people, and
14 after that it's one person only.

15 Q. Yeah.

16 A. Comes in every day, though.

17 Q. Is it fair to say that based on what you told these
18 officers, that Nur sort of encouraged you to do this fraud,
19 correct?

20 A. Nur always not encourage me. I, I'm the wrong too.

21 Q. I know. I know.

22 A. Because everyone -- I'm not happy about it, but I'm
23 wrong that time. And I'm not supposed to do that.

24 Q. You don't want to blame somebody for what you did,
25 correct?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. All right. And is it fair to say that Eidleh also sort
3 of encouraged you to do this?

4 A. No. Eidleh, he told me whatever happened that time, but
5 he's not saying take this money or take this food. No, he's
6 not.

7 Q. So Eidleh didn't encourage you to do this. You did it
8 all by yourself?

9 A. No. Eidleh, he told me this would happen and this what
10 you do and something like that the first day, but he's not
11 say go fraud, though, do this.

12 Q. So you did it all by yourself. Is that what your
13 testimony is?

14 MR. THOMPSON: Your Honor, objection.

15 THE WITNESS: Yes.

16 MR. THOMPSON: Misstates her testimony.

17 THE COURT: I'll allow the question.

18 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

19 Q. All right. Did Mr. Eidleh encourage you to do the
20 fraud?

21 A. No.

22 Q. All right. So, and you just testified that Ms. Nur did
23 not encourage you.

24 A. Ms. Nur and me, we the same because she Aimee friend but
25 she not force me anything. We are partners.

1 Q. All right. Okay.

2 A. Yeah. I don't want it. The mistake I did. Someone
3 else like say he did.

4 Q. All right.

5 A. I did that mistake.

6 Q. You did the mistake?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. All right. And I believe you testified -- correct me if
9 I am wrong -- Ms. Bock did not tell you to do the fraud, did
10 she?

11 A. Ms. Bock, she not tell me, but her worker, if they see
12 Eidleh, would not miss where we are right now. If they
13 have, they supposed to work what they supposed to work. And
14 the first time they can catch us, we're not like that
15 missed, mess up right now.

16 Q. What you are saying is --

17 A. We are training, like I never take training even.

18 Q. So you are saying Feeding Our Future did not train you
19 properly, correct?

20 A. No. The first time Eidleh told me this what happen,
21 this what happen, and the paper they bring me that 15th of
22 September. After that I don't have training.

23 Q. Okay. And, and at that first meeting, Ms. Nur was there
24 with you, correct?

25 A. The first day.

1 Q. Yes?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. All right. And that was the first day you fill out the
4 application --

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. -- to participate in the food program, correct?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. All right. So when you received a total, based on your
9 testimony, you received a total, based on your testimony, of
10 \$5 million from the food program, correct, about 5 million?

11 A. More than that.

12 Q. More than 5 million. And you donated 2,000 to Feeding
13 Our Future?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. All right. Did you donate the 2,000 to Ms. Bock
16 personally, or was it to Feeding Our Future?

17 A. Right to Feeding Our Future.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. But Ms. Bock Feeding Our Future owner.

20 Q. So you give the money to Feeding Our Future, and you
21 believe Ms. Bock is the owner of Feeding Our Future?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Do you -- I'm not trying to insult you. Do you know the
24 difference between a for-profit business and a nonprofit
25 business?

1 A. Nonprofit business.

2 Q. All right. Did you own a nonprofit business?

3 A. No. I'm profit business.

4 Q. You owned a for-profit business. All right. Feeding
5 Our Future was a nonprofit, wasn't it?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. So Ms. Bock doesn't own Feeding Our Future. Okay?

8 A. Who owned it?

9 Q. It's a nonprofit. You can't tell -- that's okay, if you
10 don't understand the difference.

11 All right. I want to walk through some of the
12 exhibits.

13 Ms. Mallet, would you call up BB37a, the video.

14 Before we play it, do you know -- by the way, were
15 there any other men in that meeting in that celebration?

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. There were men in there?

18 A. We had a lot of mens that day.

19 Q. Okay. The video doesn't show -- maybe I mistook. The
20 video doesn't show.

21 A. The video only displaying the woman, focusing.

22 Q. All right. Was it that particular section of the
23 celebration, was it just for woman or was it for --

24 A. No. The women, they playing that song, but also the
25 other whole sitting, the men also.

1 Q. Was the men and women was seated separately? Was that
2 so?

3 A. I'm not calling separately, but it's like more together.

4 Q. And what you gave, that is the group, gave to Ms. Bock
5 was a plaque, right?

6 A. What plaque?

7 Q. It was that plaque, that plaque?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. All right. Did you give money?

10 A. I don't see money.

11 Q. All right. Why don't you play it.

12 (Video recording played)

13 MR. UDOIBOK: Pause. There's no audio. Pause it.

14 I'll take yours.

15 MR. THOMPSON: Sure.

16 MR. UDOIBOK: Just play it once.

17 MR. THOMPSON: The whole thing.

18 (Counsel confer)

19 (Video recording played)

20 MR. UDOIBOK: Stop.

21 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

22 Q. What is that? What, who is speaking there?

23 A. Ms. Asha.

24 Q. All right. Who is Asha in relationship to you?

25 A. Asha is Somalian. Like when we have wedding or when we

1 have party, she always sing.

2 Q. What does she say?

3 A. They call buranbur this one.

4 Q. They call it what?

5 A. Like buranbur. Like we have American song. They have
6 like what they call, I don't know, buranbur or something
7 else. We have American, right?

8 This is they call buranbur.

9 MR. UDOIBOK: Your Honor, should she speak in -- I
10 ask that she speak in Somali and the interpreter --

11 THE COURT: Can you interpret that word?

12 THE INTERPRETER: Yeah. That word is called
13 buranbur. It's more like a chanting than a song. So you
14 can call it a song, but it's a more like a poetry.

15 THE WITNESS: Or rap.

16 MR. UDOIBOK: Like a rap song.

17 THE INTERPRETER: Kind of like that. It's mostly
18 chanting poetry style.

19 THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

20 MR. UDOIBOK: All right. Thank you, Your Honor.

21 Play it a little bit.

22 (Video recording played)

23 MR. UDOIBOK: Okay. Enough.

24 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

25 Q. Is that a chant of a traditional chant in Somalia?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. All right. And it's poetry. And you put in the --
3 Aimee Bock's name, life, in the poem?

4 A. Yeah.

5 Q. All right.

6 MR. UDOIBOK: Thank you.

7 MR. THOMPSON: Are you sure?

8 MR. UDOIBOK: No, please. Thank you. Give it
9 back to her.

10 MR. THOMPSON: I'm trying.

11 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

12 Q. So I want to direct you to some of the exhibits that you
13 talked about.

14 Let's, Ms. Mallet, why don't you call out Q8.
15 Thank you. Highlight the email, please.

16 Now this is an email from you to Hani at Feeding
17 Our Future, correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Is it Hani or Hani?

20 I believe you testified that, correct me if I'm
21 wrong, you don't do emails?

22 A. No.

23 Q. All right. Who in your business was responsible to
24 sending, for sending emails?

25 A. My partner Sahra.

1 Q. Who? Ms. Nur?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Okay. Let's go to page 2.

4 So is it fair to say that you did not create this
5 page 2, correct? You didn't create it?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Is it also fair to say that it was Ms. Nur that created
8 this?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Okay. You just wanted the money.

11 A. Yep.

12 Q. All right. Let's go to page 4. Call out the total
13 amount.

14 Did Ms. Nur tell you that she was generating
15 invoice that amounted to \$570,000?

16 A. We are partners. She doing the papers. I do the foods.

17 Q. Yeah.

18 A. She don't have to tell me. She just created and do it.

19 Q. She's smart. She's older than you, correct?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And she does the paperwork. You are busy with cooking,
22 correct?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And whatever paperwork she brings to you --

25 A. And I sign it.

1 Q. -- you will sign it?

2 A. Yeah.

3 Q. All right. Let's look at page 5 of the same exhibit,
4 Ms. Mallet.

5 So all of the bills, I don't want to go through
6 it. We have page 5 through 11. Those are all S & S
7 Catering invoices. It's your testimony that you didn't do
8 them, and it was done by Ms. Nur, correct?

9 A. I never touch paper.

10 Q. All right.

11 A. Because I don't know.

12 Q. But you touched the money, didn't you?

13 A. I touched the money, yeah.

14 Q. All right. Let's go to page 12. And I believe you
15 testified about page 12.

16 Let me just back up. Did Ms. Bock help you to
17 form S & S Catering?

18 A. No.

19 Q. All right. This, Ms. Mallet, call out higher, higher
20 education achievement.

21 Who owns or who owned Youth Higher Educational
22 Achievement?

23 A. My daughter.

24 Q. All right. Did Ms. Bock help your daughter in creating
25 that organization?

1 A. No. I did.

2 Q. All right. Go to page 15. Call out.

3 A. What?

4 Q. I'm sorry. Advance Youth Athletic Development. What is
5 that?

6 A. One of the people work with us.

7 Q. All right. Did Ms. Bock help in the creation of that
8 organization?

9 A. No. I don't know who creation this, the guy have it.

10 Q. All right. So you testified that you got receipts from
11 U.S. Halal Food, right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And you, you got blank receipts. Was it blank receipt
14 and you filled it out?

15 A. No. They fill it out.

16 Q. They fill it out for you, and it was in excess of what
17 you bought, right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And you wanted more receipts so that it will meet your
20 meal count, correct?

21 A. What you say?

22 Q. You wanted to buy more receipt to show that you bought
23 food to feed 2,000 people.

24 A. More receipt always, but we buy something like, like for
25 something, like 500, they give you extra 200 or 300.

1 Q. Okay. Okay. Just to pad it a little bit more?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And you wanted it padded so that you can submit those
4 receipts to Feeding Our Future, correct?

5 A. No. Feeding Our Future always, they don't take that
6 receipts at all me. They take this kind of receipt of, the
7 receipt, S & S receipt.

8 Q. Oh, Feeding Our Future will take S & S receipts?

9 A. Yeah.

10 Q. But you wanted your own receipts to show that S & S
11 receipt is real, correct?

12 A. What you say again? I'm not sure what you --

13 Q. All right. So Feeding Our Future will take S & S
14 receipts?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. All right. And when you go to U.S. Halal, you get
17 receipts with addition. You say they are padded, correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Yes. And the reason you want the receipt padded is --

20 A. In case we need it.

21 Q. -- in case you need it and in case Feeding Our Future
22 comes checking for it, correct?

23 A. Yeah. But they never ask us.

24 Q. They're not going to ask you?

25 A. They never ask.

1 Q. Did they ever ask you to show receipts? When I mean
2 "they," Feeding Our Future, did they ever ask you to show
3 receipt?

4 A. No.

5 Q. All right. In April 2021, did Feeding Our Future
6 terminate you because of failure to show enough receipts?

7 A. What day?

8 Q. April 2021.

9 A. No. All hot food they stop at that time. I have a hot
10 food, my kitchen. They stop that day.

11 Q. So Feeding Our Future --

12 A. But, yeah, but still continue like cold food like --
13 that time they still had food like -- the food we cooking,
14 she stopped that day.

15 Q. All right.

16 A. But not the other food.

17 Q. When you say "she," you mean Feeding Our Future?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Okay. Did Feeding Our Future tell you why to stop
20 cooked food.

21 A. That day they stop like dinner. The S & S dinner, they
22 stop, but like youths, a lot of youths, they have like dry
23 food. The dry food continue, but the hot food they stop
24 that day.

25 Q. All right. Well just, just let's focus on S & S.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Did Feeding Our Future terminate S & S in April 2021?

3 A. No.

4 Q. No. What did they stop S & S from doing?

5 A. S & S, the dinner they stop that day. The hot food we
6 being cooking. They stop that day but --

7 Q. Wait, wait, wait. So they stop hot food that S & S
8 cooked?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Then you cannot supply hot food, hot food anymore,
11 correct?

12 A. That day, yeah.

13 Q. All right. One day or throughout?

14 A. All.

15 Q. Throughout. Okay. But then S & S can continue in dry
16 food?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. The S & S site and not the youth site?

19 A. S & S is vendor, like they hot food and also dry food.
20 We like, we put ready for dry food and also hot food. The
21 hot food, that day they stop.

22 Q. All right. And why did they stop hot food?

23 A. They say the one day like -- we never fell down, but she
24 say all the hot food we stopping today. They call us.

25 Q. Did Feeding Our Future -- oh, by the way who called you

1 from Feeding Our Future?

2 A. The Feeding Our Future, like Hani I think called me that
3 day.

4 Q. Who?

5 A. Hani. Hani.

6 Q. Oh, Hani. Okay. All right. So Hani told you no more
7 hot food from S & S?

8 A. Not only me. Not only me. They stop.

9 THE COURT: Mr. Udoibok, we're going to take our
10 afternoon break.

11 MR. UDOIBOK: Thank you.

12 THE COURT: We'll be back at 3:25 everyone.

13 3:05 p.m.

14 **IN OPEN COURT**

15 **(JURY NOT PRESENT)**

16 THE COURT: We're in recess until 3:25.

17 (Recess taken at 3:05 p.m. till 3:27 p.m.)3:27 p.m.

18 **IN OPEN COURT**

19 **(JURY PRESENT)**

20 THE COURT: You may all be seated.

21 And, Mr. Udoibok, you may continue.

22 MR. UDOIBOK: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

24 Q. Ms. Hassan, we were talking about Exhibit Q8, and we're
25 at page 4.

1 Ms. Mallet, could you just scroll down slowly and
2 stop at page 11 for Ms. Hassan to be able to see those
3 pages.

4 A. I see.

5 Q. All right. Go to 11.

6 A. What did you say?

7 Q. Go to page 11. Sorry. I wasn't -- all right. Call out
8 the total amount.

9 All right. Is there a signature on page 12?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Okay. Go to the next page. Is there a total amount?

12 A. I don't see signature.

13 Q. Okay. Go to the next page, please. Highlight the total
14 amount.

15 So just I understand, you received \$516,906.40 for
16 this particular invoice. How did you share that money?

17 A. Me and Sahra, we have 50/50 shares, but we don't take
18 money. We bought it like building. We bought whatever we
19 need that time --

20 Q. All right.

21 A. -- together.

22 Q. All right. Okay. Now let's go to Q9. Highlight the --

23 You see from, it says from
24 noreply@feedingourfuture.org to AA claims. Do you see that?

25 A. I see the AA claims.

1 Q. And then the subject is Message, and then a bunch of
2 numbers.

3 Do you see that?

4 THE COURT: Counsel, I would like a sidebar,
5 please.

6 **(Sidebar discussion)**

7 THE COURT: Mr. Udoibok, she doesn't read English,
8 so I don't know that you can ask her, and I don't want to
9 embarrass her, but you can't ask her whether something
10 says something because she can't read English.

11 MR. UDOIBOK: I'm sorry, Your Honor. I completely
12 forgot.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 **(In open court)**

15 BY MR. UDOIBOK:

16 Q. Remove the callout.

17 So you testified that Ms. Nur does the paperwork,
18 correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And have you ever gone to Feeding Our Future office to
21 submit your claims?

22 A. Sometime I drop off some like, you know, like, you know,
23 envelope.

24 Q. Documents?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. But you don't know what's in there?

2 A. Yes. I don't know.

3 Q. All right. I'm just curious about Ms. Nur. You said
4 that Ms. Nur is friends with Ms. Bock, right? You said
5 that. You testified to that?

6 A. Yes, they know before me.

7 Q. Okay. Nur, was it -- have you ever been in, in a social
8 gathering with Ms. Nur and Ms. Bock together?

9 A. I don't know.

10 Q. Okay. Have you gone to dinner with Ms. Bock and Ms. Nur
11 ever?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Okay. So you know that Ms. Bock, you believe that
14 Ms. Bock is friends with Ms. Nur because Nur told you that,
15 correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Okay. And is it fair -- let's go to Q7. Go to page 4.

18 Is it your testimony that you are not the one that
19 prepared this after-school meal count, correct?

20 A. I never prepare any papers.

21 Q. It would have been done by Ms. Nur, correct?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Let's go to Q3.

24 You don't write emails, correct, so you did not
25 compose the email on Q3, correct?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Okay. And it would have been done by Ms. Nur, right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And I think it's written on there.

5 MR. UDOIBOK: Your Honor, I have no further
6 questions.

7 THE COURT: Mr. Colich or Mr. Montez.

8 MR. MONTEZ: No questions, Your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Mr. Thompson.

10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

11 BY MR. THOMPSON:

12 Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Hassan.

13 Counsel just asked you a few questions about Sahra
14 Nur's relationship with Aimee Bock?

15 A. Yeah.

16 Q. What was their relationship?

17 A. Sahra told me they are friends long.

18 Q. Long-time friends?

19 A. Yeah.

20 Q. You said that Sahra Nur had done some recruiting for
21 Aimee Bock?

22 A. Yeah.

23 Q. What kind of recruiting?

24 A. She told me before, they know each other before she open
25 up nonprofit. And when she open, she included for daycares

1 and --

2 Q. After Aimee Bock opened her nonprofit?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. Feeding Our Future?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Sahra Nur then recruited for her?

7 A. Yeah, that's what she told me.

8 Q. And where did she recruit, in which community?

9 A. Somali community.

10 Q. In the Somali community?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. Okay. Did you ever see Ms. Nur and Ms. Bock together?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. When? Like tell me what you saw.

15 A. In the office. A lot of times I go sit in the reception
16 as she go in the office, always.

17 Q. When you and Ms. Nur went to Feeding Our Future?

18 A. Yeah.

19 Q. And why would you and Ms. Nur go to Feeding Our Future?

20 A. Like I go her like two times or three times, when they
21 hold the money and when the amount and wrong check and
22 something like that.

23 Q. Okay. And Ms. Nur went with you?

24 A. Yes. She go inside and I sit the front.

25 Q. Inside of Ms. Bock's office?

1 A. Yeah.

2 Q. To meet with her?

3 A. She go inside, and I go like the reception area.

4 Q. You were asked about whether or not you had ever been at

5 a social event with Ms. Nur and Ms. Bock.

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. There was a party, correct?

8 A. Yes, the party for the Benadir Hall.

9 Q. At Benadir Hall?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Who hosted that party?

12 A. A lot of Somalian women.

13 Q. Sahra Nur was one of those women?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Okay. And who was that party for?

16 A. For the food when she's winning, the food program.

17 Q. And again what was, why was that a celebration?

18 A. The celebration for the food. They want to stop, and

19 she's going fight for that.

20 Q. And why were people excited?

21 A. Everybody, they want the money.

22 Q. They wanted the money?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did Ms. Bock know why everyone was excited at that

25 party?

- 1 A. She knows everybody there excited. They need the money.
- 2 Q. Ms. Bock knew that?
- 3 A. She knows because everybody, why they excited if they
- 4 are not getting money?
- 5 Q. Okay. You talked about people buying things with the
- 6 money. What did you see?
- 7 A. A lot of cars, a lot of houses.
- 8 Q. What kind of cars?
- 9 A. Fancy cars.
- 10 Q. Fancy cars?
- 11 A. Yeah.
- 12 Q. What kind of houses?
- 13 A. Everybody did different taste.
- 14 Q. Everybody has different taste?
- 15 A. Yeah.
- 16 Q. Okay. But a lot of people bought a lot of houses?
- 17 A. Yeah.
- 18 Q. How did they pay for those houses?
- 19 A. That money.
- 20 Q. The food money?
- 21 A. Yeah.
- 22 Q. You said Feeding Our Future employees knew that your
- 23 site -- Feeding Our Future knew that your site was
- 24 submitting fraudulent claims.
- 25 A. Yes, they know because the place, they approve us for

1 couple thousand, like 5,000, another 5,000, like 15,000 or
2 12,000 a day. We don't have that place, and the food we
3 have, it's not -- everybody that can see.

4 Q. You said anybody with a brain, is that what you said?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. Would, Feeding Our Future people were sometimes at your
7 sites; is that right?

8 A. Yeah.

9 Q. And I think you explained it on cross-examination, but
10 what, what did they see in terms of the food actually at
11 these sites?

12 A. You know, they always come our 309 Lake Street, the food
13 we, like packaging. And they can see we don't have that
14 many food and the place is like, it can't be that many food.

15 Q. There wasn't nearly enough food?

16 A. Yeah.

17 Q. Thank you.

18 MR. THOMPSON: No further questions, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: You may step down. Thank you.

20 THE WITNESS: You are welcome.

21 THE COURT: And the government may call its next
22 witness.

23 You are excused, I think. Do we need an
24 interpreter anymore.

25 MR. EBERT: We do not, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Thank you.

2 The government may call its next witness.

3 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, the government recalls
4 Special Agent Jared Kary.

5 THE COURT: Thank you.

6 Special Agent Kary, I think I am going to re-swear
7 you.

8 JARED KARY,

9 called on behalf of the government, was duly sworn, was
10 examined and testified as follows:

11 THE WITNESS: I do.

12 THE COURT: Thank you. You may be seated.

13 And then again for the record, your first and last
14 name.

15 THE WITNESS: Jared Kary, J-A-R-E-D K-A-R-Y.

16 THE COURT: Thank you.

17 Mr. Ebert, you may inquire, direct examination.

18 MR. EBERT: Thank you, Your Honor.

19 DIRECT EXAMINATION

20 BY MR. EBERT:

21 Q. Good afternoon, Agent Kary.

22 A. Good afternoon.

23 Q. When we last spoke, you were employed as a special agent
24 with the FBI; is that right?

25 A. That's correct.

1 Q. And does that remain the case today?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Hearing the news you don't know sometimes.

4 And so I want to pick up a bit where we left off
5 last time, Special Agent Kary, and to bring your attention
6 back to Exhibit X1 and ask you to just remind the jury what
7 that item is. Okay?

8 A. Sounds good.

9 Q. Okay. And I will enlarge this on the screen. And while
10 I do so, can you remind the jury what Exhibit X1 is?

11 A. This is a summary chart put together by the team related
12 to all of the Feeding Our Future claims by site, and this
13 section of the exhibit is related to the dollar amounts per
14 site.

15 Q. And they are listed here in a certain order; is that
16 right?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. And what is that order?

19 A. It's from the highest grand total all the way down to
20 the lowest total.

21 Q. And as we've discussed previously, the highest total is
22 with which food distribution site?

23 A. Safari Restaurant.

24 Q. Of about \$12.1 million?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. And just to orient the jury as to a few other names
2 we've since heard throughout this trial, do we see ASA
3 Limited?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. And this was a site located where?

6 A. On McKnight Road in Maplewood or St. Paul.

7 Q. Okay. And that has a claim total of about 5.3 million;
8 is that right?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. Now, the jury has also heard a few other names in the
11 last few days, including the ones I've just highlighted; is
12 that right?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. And can you remind the jury where the middle entity,
15 Olive Management, how that factors into this trial?

16 A. That is a site that was up in St. Cloud area.

17 Q. And so if I'm highlighting that correctly, does that
18 show 5.3 million associated with the Stigma-Free site in
19 Willmar?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. And beneath that about how much for the following two
22 parties, Olive Management and Stigma-Free International,
23 Mankato?

24 A. Both of those entities, just over 5.2 million for both
25 of them.

1 Q. And a moment ago we heard from Qamar Hassan, and she
2 spoke about which, which site?

3 A. S & S Catering, along with a number of other youths
4 related sites that were in the title.

5 Q. And to start with S & S Catering, do we see that
6 highlighted here?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And did that site alone have a grand total of about
9 3.2 million in Federal Child Nutrition Program funds that
10 were issued in response to claims?

11 A. Yes. And that's just for the actual, that one site, not
12 all the other youths combined.

13 Q. And so on that note, are there a few other entities
14 involving the youths that we just heard through the previous
15 witness?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. Including Youth Inventors Lab?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And what's the one above it?

20 A. Academy for Youth Excellence.

21 Q. And are those additional dollar amounts of about
22 4.1 million and 3.6 million?

23 A. That's correct.

24 Q. Through the testimony of Special Agent Wilmer, was there
25 a reference to this party or this site, rather, that I've

1 just highlighted?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And that has what name?

4 A. Brava Cafe.

5 Q. And which individual is primarily associated with that
6 site Brava Cafe?

7 A. Hanna Marekegn.

8 Q. And to be confused, this is Brava Cafe located where?

9 A. On Hennepin Avenue here in North Minneapolis, not too
10 far, not too far from here.

11 Q. Not to be confused with Brava Restaurant.

12 A. Correct, which is in Rochester, Minnesota.

13 Q. And 5.7 million approximately is the dollar figure
14 associated with Brava Cafe?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. Making it the third highest recipient of Federal Child
17 Nutrition Program through Feeding Our Future; is that right?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. Now prior to your testimony today, did you have an
20 opportunity to look at Exhibits Q90 through Q99, which are
21 additional records obtained during the search warrant at
22 Feeding Our Future?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And are those true and accurate copies of files and --
25 excuse me. Are those true and accurate copies of email

1 messages, Special Agent, obtained pursuant to search
2 warrants from email providers, including Google, that relate
3 to Brava Cafe?

4 A. Correct.

5 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, at this time the
6 government offers Exhibits Q90 through Q99 into evidence.

7 THE COURT: Any objection?

8 (Counsel confer)

9 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, may I have one moment?

10 THE COURT: Mm-hmm.

11 (Counsel confer)

12 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

13 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

14 THE COURT: Q90 through Q99 are admitted.

15 MR. EBERT: Thank you, Your Honor.

16 BY MR. EBERT:

17 Q. And we are just going to spend a few moments talking
18 about and moving into evidence a series of additional
19 records pertaining to some of the other Feeding Our Future
20 sites.

21 A. Sounds good.

22 Q. Going back to this summary chart of the Feeding Our
23 Future sites, what is the second highest dollar amount site?

24 A. Shamsia Hopes.

25 Q. For just over \$6 million; is that right?

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. And prior to your testimony today, did you have an
3 opportunity to look at a series of exhibits pertaining to
4 that location, Shamsia Hopes?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Are those Exhibits Q60 through Q69?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. And are Q60 through Q68 true and accurate copies of
9 email messages provided in response to a search warrant?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And is Q69 true and correct copies of records provided
12 in response to a subpoena to investigators?

13 A. Yes.

14 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, at this time the
15 government offers into evidence Exhibits Q60 through Q69.

16 THE COURT: Any objection?

17 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

18 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

19 THE COURT: Q60 through Q69 are admitted.

20 MR. EBERT: Thank you.

21 BY MR. EBERT:

22 Q. Now I want to direct your attention to another site by
23 the name of Great Lakes. Are you familiar with that?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. And prior to your testimony today, did you have an

1 opportunity to look at a series of email messages concerning
2 the Great Lakes site?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Specifically, Exhibits Q51 through Q56?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Are those true and accurate copies of records provided
7 by Google?

8 A. Correct.

9 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, the government offers
10 Exhibits Q51 through Q56.

11 THE COURT: Any objection?

12 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

13 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

14 THE COURT: Q51 through Q56 are admitted.

15 BY MR. EBERT:

16 Q. All right. Next I want to show you on your screen
17 what's been marked but not admitted as Exhibit Q47. And are
18 these a series of six pages of checks that investigators
19 obtained from a bank in response to a subpoena?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And are those true and accurate copies of that subpoena
22 response?

23 A. Yes.

24 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, at this time the
25 government offers Exhibit Q47 into evidence.

1 THE COURT: Any objection?

2 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

3 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

4 THE COURT: Q47 is admitted.

5 BY MR. EBERT:

6 Q. And as we continue forward here on these additional
7 items, Special Agent Kary, next I want to direct your
8 attention to an entity called Southwest Metro Youth. Can
9 you briefly describe what that is?

10 A. Southwest Metro Youth was a site operated by Hadith
11 Ahmed, an employee of Feeding Our Future. He operated that
12 site as a food distribution site, which was a fraudulent
13 food distribution site, submitting false claims.

14 And he was also an employee of Feeding Our Future.

15 Q. And you've reviewed a series of email messages provided
16 by Google in response to search warrants that relate to
17 Mr. Ahmed and his site; is that correct?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. And are Exhibits Q30 through Q38 true and accurate
20 copies of those responsive records?

21 A. Yes.

22 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, at this time the
23 government offers Exhibits Q30 through Q38.

24 THE COURT: Any objection?

25 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

1 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

2 THE COURT: Q30 through 38 are admitted.

3 MR. EBERT: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 BY MR. EBERT:

5 Q. Next, Special Agent Kary, I want to direct your
6 attention to a site by the name of Xogmaal Media. Are you
7 familiar with that?

8 A. I am, yes.

9 Q. Can you explain briefly what that is to the jury?

10 A. That was a media production company that was also a food
11 distribution or a purported food distribution site that
12 didn't really distribute food but was also participating in
13 the Federal Child Nutrition Program under the sponsorship of
14 Feeding Our Future and was involved in this investigation as
15 well.

16 Q. And going back here to Exhibit X1, do we see Xogmaal
17 Media, which begins with the letter X?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. Which in response to what you just described received
20 approximately \$1.3 million in federal child food money; is
21 that right?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Prior to today, have you reviewed Exhibits Q84, Q85 and
24 Q86, which are email messages provided by Google in response
25 to a search warrant?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Are those true and accurate copies?

3 A. Yes, they are.

4 MR. EBERT: At this time the government offers
5 Exhibits Q84, Q85, and Q86.

6 THE COURT: Any objection?

7 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

8 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

9 THE COURT: Those exhibits are admitted.

10 BY MR. EBERT:

11 Q. All right. Moving along, Special Agent Kary, I want to
12 direct your attention to an entity by the name of Nawal
13 Restaurant. Are you familiar with that?

14 A. I am, yes.

15 Q. What is Nawal Restaurant?

16 A. It is another entity that participated in the Federal
17 Child Nutrition Program under the sponsorship of Feeding Our
18 Future.

19 Q. Are Exhibits Q102 through Q105 true and correct copies
20 of email messages from Google concerning Nawal Restaurant?

21 A. Yes, they are.

22 MR. EBERT: At this time the government offers
23 Q102 through Q105.

24 THE COURT: Any objection?

25 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

1 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

2 THE COURT: Q102 through 105 are admitted.

3 MR. EBERT: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 BY MR. EBERT:

5 Q. Next I want to direct your attention to a site by the
6 name of Evergreen Grocery. Are you familiar with that?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Can you explain Evergreen Grocery?

9 A. That is another purported meal distribution site that
10 fraudulently operated under the Federal Child Nutrition
11 Program under the sponsorship of Feeding Our Future.

12 Q. And are Exhibits Q110 and Q117 true and accurate copies
13 of email records provided by Google concerning Evergreen
14 Grocery?

15 A. Yes.

16 MR. EBERT: At this time, Your Honor, the
17 government offers Exhibits Q110 and Q117.

18 THE COURT: Any objection?

19 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

20 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

21 THE COURT: Q110 and 117 are admitted.

22 MR. EBERT: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 BY MR. EBERT:

24 Q. Moving on, Special Agent Kary, are you familiar with a
25 site that went by the name Stigma-Free, Brooklyn Park, which

1 was related to a location called Kelly's 19th Hole?

2 A. I am familiar with that, yes.

3 Q. And are Exhibits Q120, Q121 and Q122 true and correct
4 copies of records received in the investigation?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Including Q122, which is in response to a Google search
7 warrant?

8 A. Correct.

9 MR. EBERT: At this time the government offers
10 Q120 through Q122, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Any objection?

12 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

13 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

14 THE COURT: Q120 through 122 are admitted.

15 MR. EBERT: Thank you.

16 BY MR. EBERT:

17 Q. Now we've heard testimony last week from a witness
18 concerning a location in Faribault. Do you recall that?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Which location was that?

21 A. Lido Restaurant operated by Lul Ali.

22 Q. And in addition to Lido Restaurant, is there another
23 site that was located in Faribault under the sponsorship of
24 Feeding Our Future?

25 A. Yes. SAFE.

1 Q. Also known as Somalia American Faribault Education?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. SAFE for short?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. And do the following email messages reflect true and
6 correct copies of records provided by Google concerning
7 SAFE, Q130 and Q131, followed by Q133 through Q143?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And in addition does Exhibit Q146 reflect true and
10 correct copies of records provided in response to a grand
11 jury subpoena concerning SAFE?

12 A. Yes.

13 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, at this time the
14 government offers Exhibits Q130 and 131, and Q133
15 through 143, followed by Q146.

16 THE COURT: Any objection?

17 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

18 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

19 THE COURT: Q130, 131, 133 to 143 and 146 are
20 admitted.

21 MR. EBERT: Thank you, Your Honor.

22 BY MR. EBERT:

23 Q. And shifting gears a bit, Special Agent Kary, from some
24 of the site records, I want to direct your attention to
25 three remaining items before we turn to other matters.

1 Okay?

2 A. Okay.

3 Q. First, I want to show you what has been marked but not
4 admitted, which is Exhibit A5. Is A5 yet another email
5 message provided by Google in response to a search warrant?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. True and accurate copy?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Next, I want to show you Exhibit A29. Is this an
10 additional example of an email message provided by Google in
11 response to a search warrant?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. True and correct copy?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And lastly Exhibit A77. Do we see here an additional
16 Google record provided in response to a search warrant?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. True and accurate as well?

19 A. Yes.

20 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, at this time the
21 government offers Exhibits A5, A29 and A77.

22 THE COURT: Any objection?

23 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

24 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

25 THE COURT: Those exhibits are admitted.

1 MR. EBERT: All right. Thank you, Your Honor.

2 BY MR. EBERT:

3 Q. All right. With that out of the way, Special Agent, I
4 want to direct your attention next to a location of Feeding
5 Our Future, specifically one at Taylor and Columbus. Are
6 you familiar with that site?

7 A. I'm familiar with a site. When you say Taylor/Columbus,
8 it's a Taylor site at Columbus, on Columbus Avenue South in
9 Minneapolis.

10 Q. And we'll enlarge here back on Exhibit X1, which kind of
11 contains this summary. And do you see highlighted a site
12 identification number that ends in 19273?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And what's the name for that site ID?

15 A. Feeding Our Future, Taylor.

16 Q. And what's the total amount received under the name
17 Feeding Our Future, Taylor?

18 A. Over 2.5 million.

19 Q. Now, the jury has heard a lot of testimony and evidence
20 about a system where Feeding Our Future is the sponsor; is
21 that right?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. And then beneath it there are a series of different
24 parties operating a site. Is that a fair summary?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. For example, Safari Restaurant.

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. Or ASA Limited over in St. Paul, another example?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Is that how the investigation has revealed that this
6 particular highlighted site operated as well?

7 A. No. It's different.

8 Q. Can you explain?

9 A. Well, this would be similar to, as was described with
10 the school districts, the school districts, they are a
11 sponsor of themselves, and they have their own sites.

12 So the St. Paul School District, they have, they
13 are their own sponsor, and they are also partaking in the
14 program with sites at their schools. So they're the
15 sponsor, and they're the actual site as well.

16 So in this case Feeding Our Future is the sponsor,
17 and this Taylor site is the sponsor operating the site.

18 Q. Hence, we even see the very name Feeding Our Future to
19 describe the site; is that right?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. And we are going to talk about this one here today; is
22 that right?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. But is this the only example of a site that comprises
25 all of the lists of sites in X1 for which Feeding Our Future

1 is also the site operator in addition to being the sponsor?

2 A. No. There are more sites that are operated by Feeding
3 Our Future.

4 Q. And I want to show you what has been marked, but not
5 admitted, a photograph at P76a. Is this a photograph, a
6 still image taken from video, of this Taylor Feeding Our
7 Future site that we're talking about?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And in addition to this one, do P76b through P76j
10 compromise additional still images of that same location?

11 A. Yes.

12 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, at this time the
13 government offers Exhibit P76a through P76j.

14 THE COURT: Any objection?

15 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

16 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

17 THE COURT: P76a through j are admitted.

18 MR. EBERT: All right. Thank you.

19 BY MR. EBERT:

20 Q. All right. So now up on the screen for the jury,
21 Special Agent Kary, is this image. Can you describe what
22 the jury is seeing?

23 A. This is an image of the Taylor site, which is located on
24 Columbus Avenue in Minneapolis, just a couple of miles from
25 here. And it's just north of Lake Street and just south of

1 the Greenway. You can actually see the bridge where the
2 Greenway is. Sort of looking straight down at that tree to
3 the right of the screen is the Greenway right there.

4 So and this is a picture of the front edge of the
5 building. There's only one way in and one way out, and it
6 goes down an alley.

7 Q. Okay. And so I'll just enlarge, but is it this building
8 that appears to be light gray with graffiti on the side?

9 This is the Feeding Our Future food location?

10 A. It is, yes.

11 Q. For children?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. That's what it was supposed to be?

14 A. It was, yes.

15 Q. Now, we've heard testimony about S & S Catering by the
16 previous witness, Ms. Qamar Hassan; is that right?

17 A. Correct.

18 Q. Approximately how far is S & S Catering from what we see
19 on the screen?

20 A. About half a mile.

21 Q. And how far is S & S Catering from Salim Said's
22 restaurant, Safari?

23 A. I'm sorry. S & S is right next door to Safari within a
24 block or a minute walk or two and then --

25 Q. So those two Feeding Our Future locations are

1 approximately a half a mile from what we see on the screen?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. All right. Next I want to show you what has been marked
4 but not admitted, and this is Exhibit P80. Do you recognize
5 P80?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Is this a summary chart that you helped create with
8 other investigators?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. How did investigators create the chart?

11 A. This is data pulled from the CLiCS information that we
12 obtained from the Minnesota Department of Education.

13 Q. Concerning meals supposedly served at that picture we
14 just looked at a moment ago?

15 A. Yes, the number of meals and the total dollar amount
16 associated with those meals.

17 Q. And does P80 fairly and accurately summarize the
18 information concerning Feeding Our Future claims and meal
19 counts as reflected in MDE records?

20 A. Yes, it contains the Feeding Our Future data, as well as
21 other data for Southside Youth associated with the location.

22 Q. And would it be helpful to the jury in understanding the
23 evidence in the case?

24 A. I believe it would.

25 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, at this time the

1 government offers Exhibit P80.

2 THE COURT: Any objection?

3 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

4 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

5 THE COURT: P80 is admitted.

6 BY MR. EBERT:

7 Q. So we're going to walk through a little bit what is in
8 this, in this summary, Special Agent Kary, but before I do
9 that --

10 So on the left we see the image of the supposed
11 food location P76a; is that right?

12 A. Correct.

13 Q. Now, can you explain some of the information that we see
14 on the right in P80?

15 A. Yeah. Sure. On the right we can see there's, there's
16 sort of two rows there with two site IDs in that first
17 column. So the two rows, the top one -- I'm sorry. I'm
18 going too far down.

19 So we have the two site IDs at the top. One is
20 related to the Feeding Our Future, Taylor location and the
21 other is related to the Southside Youth. Both site IDs were
22 associated with the address that you see sort of at the
23 third line down there that says 2854 Columbus Avenue South,
24 Minneapolis, which is what is pictured in Exhibit P76a.

25 Q. So at the top, do you see two numbers highlighted?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. One is for Feeding Our Future, Taylor; is that right?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. And the other has a different number with a different
5 name?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Southside Youth?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. And so can you please explain how it is that there are
10 two different site names with two different site IDs located
11 in that graffiti building?

12 A. I can't really explain it, other than to say that that
13 is what happens, that's what occurred, and these are the
14 claims and the amounts paid out related to both of those
15 locations.

16 Q. And to be clear, both, both of them have the same
17 address, 2854 Columbus Avenue South; is that right?

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. Here in Minneapolis?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And one of those claimed to MDE that it served how much
22 in terms of meals?

23 A. The Feeding Our Future, Taylor location, on the very far
24 right-hand column in that top blue would be one point, I
25 believe it's, eight. That's the combination of both.

1 Q. I'm going to enlarge that in a second.

2 A. So that's the combination of both.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. The one site above it is 442,498.

5 Q. So one, under one site name at this location that we see
6 in P76a, supposedly 1.1 million meals were served; is that
7 right?

8 A. That's purported, yes.

9 Q. And then separately under the other name, an additional
10 442,000 approximately --

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. -- were purportedly served at this same location?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. You used the word "purported." Why?

15 A. I don't believe that happened at all.

16 Q. And at the bottom, are these the dollar amounts claimed
17 for those meals supposedly served?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. 2.5 million under one site name; is that right?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. And another 501,000 approximately at that same location
22 under a different name?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. For a total of over \$3 million claimed in federal child
25 nutrition money?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. All right. I want to direct your attention to P60,
3 which is not in evidence.

4 Is this an email message provided in response to a
5 Google search warrant?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. True and accurate copy?

8 A. Yes.

9 MR. EBERT: All right. At this time the
10 government offers Exhibit P60, Your Honor.

11 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

12 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

13 THE COURT: P60 is admitted.

14 BY MR. EBERT:

15 Q. All right. P60 is an email message, fair to say,
16 Special Agent Kary?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Can you explain who it is from?

19 A. It is from Aimee Bock to MDE and Kendra Pace as an MDE
20 employee.

21 Q. And the subject, does it read Site ID Request, Feeding
22 Our Future, Taylor?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And then there's some attachments that are listed or at
25 least one; is that right?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Some type of CLiCS site identification and address
3 change request; is that right?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Dated February 11th, 2021?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. And that message is signed off by Aimee Bock as
8 founder/executive director?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. And then in the attachment there's an address listed
11 above. Do you see that?

12 A. I do, yes.

13 Q. And is it for 2854 Columbus Avenue?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. And what's the site name?

16 A. Feeding Our Future, Taylor.

17 Q. Okay. In other words, is that the address and one of
18 the site names for that photograph we just looked at?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. Next I want to direct your attention to P70, which I
21 believe is in evidence.

22 THE COURT: It is.

23 BY MR. EBERT:

24 Q. P70, is this, what, about a 23-page document?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And is this yet another example of copies of records
2 obtained at that search warrant at the Feeding Our Future
3 office in January of 2022?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Now, this one has a slightly different name on it than
6 the one you just read aloud; is that right?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. This is Southside Youth?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. In other words, are these some records concerning that
11 same location on 2854 Columbus Avenue?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Except this time it has the alternative site name; is
14 that right?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. Now, do these records indicate who the supposed food
17 vendor would be for the site at, I think it's in P76a, that
18 photograph?

19 A. Yes, Metro Area Catering.

20 Q. And what is Metro Area Catering?

21 A. It's a purported catering company related to the Federal
22 Child Nutrition Program and specifically these two sites.

23 Q. And why do you say a "purported caterer"?

24 A. Based on the investigation and the financial records,
25 the funds that were sent to that account were not, were

1 hardly any used for food.

2 Q. Instead, what were they used on according to the bank
3 records?

4 A. For other purchases such as properties.

5 Q. Properties and transactions related to feeding food to
6 children?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Special Agent Kary, when you testified last week, you
9 explained to the jury some surveillance footage at Safari
10 Restaurant in Minneapolis and at ASA Limited over in
11 St. Paul.

12 Do you recall that?

13 A. I do, yes.

14 Q. Were those the only examples of surveillance video
15 footage taken during the investigation?

16 A. No.

17 Q. In addition, was there also surveillance video for this
18 location we're talking about right now on Columbus Avenue in
19 Minneapolis?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And I want to direct your attention to Exhibit P76.
22 This is not yet in evidence, but prior to today, did you
23 have an opportunity to review a portion of this video?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Is that a true and correct copy of a portion of

1 surveillance video taken at the Taylor Columbus location?

2 A. Yes.

3 MR. EBERT: At this time the government offers
4 Exhibit P76, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: Any objection?

6 MR. UDOIBOK: No, no objection.

7 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

8 THE COURT: P76 is admitted.

9 MR. EBERT: Okay. Special Agent Kary, before we
10 turn to some of this video, first can you explain where the
11 video was located in relation to that house or that
12 building?

13 THE WITNESS: It was just north of the building.
14 The stills that you saw earlier were still shots from the
15 actual pole cam that we had up. So it was just north of the
16 building facing the only entrance to that area.

17 BY MR. EBERT:

18 Q. And what's the approximate time frame where you had
19 surveillance video?

20 A. From I believe it's November 18th all the way through to
21 our overt operation in January.

22 Q. Sort of a similar time frame to what you described about
23 the other two locations with pole camera footage?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. And we'll talk a bit more about this, but in general you

1 reviewed the video footage at this location in a similar way
2 that you did to the other locations; is that right?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Do you know about how many hours of video you watched?

5 A. I should have calculated, but I failed to do that before
6 I testified. Sorry.

7 Q. Based on your review of the footage, generally how would
8 you describe the human foot traffic into that building that
9 we looked at?

10 A. Very minimal.

11 Q. And when you say, "Very minimal," what do you mean?

12 A. In November it averaged I think it was just over three
13 vehicles per day coming to the site. And then in December
14 it was four. It was, it appeared to be one person maybe
15 working there somewhat regularly.

16 But there would be days, two or three days in a
17 row, where no one would show up at all. And then there
18 would be some days where it appeared as if individuals were
19 showing up that looked like they were picking up a check or
20 an envelope or something from, from there.

21 And that would be the day that there would be
22 maybe ten to twelve cars show up, but they weren't there, it
23 didn't appear, for food distribution. And then the other
24 traffic would be, there was a few times there was a Penske
25 like moving truck that would back down the alley and unload.

1 Minneapolis Police Department had showed up at around 10:50
2 in the morning, and this is the Minneapolis Police
3 Department Crime Lab showing up.

4 Earlier, the white SUV and a white Tesla had
5 pulled up. It appeared as if they were trying to get into
6 the building and they could not. And then this is the
7 action that takes place here.

8 (Video recording played)

9 Q. Now, the action that takes place here, do we now see a
10 series of Minneapolis Police Department Crime Lab
11 individuals approaching the Feeding Our Future supposed food
12 location?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. Approximately how long are there personnel from the
15 Minneapolis Police Department Crime Lab at the supposed food
16 location?

17 A. I believe it's around 12:30 p.m. that both vehicles
18 depart the area.

19 Q. Okay. And other than this activity of the Minneapolis
20 Police Department Crime Lab showing up, did you see any
21 other humans enter or leave the Feeding Our Future food site
22 on December 1st, 2021?

23 A. No, no one shows up for the rest of the day and I think
24 even the next day that no one shows up as well.

25 Q. So I take it by "no one else," that means no children?

1 A. Correct, no children.

2 Q. Not hundreds?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Not hundreds of people receiving meals?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Not thousands?

7 A. Definitely not.

8 Q. None?

9 A. None.

10 Q. Now Special Agent Kary, we just looked at a video a
11 moment ago from which date?

12 A. December 1st of 2021.

13 Q. And the only humans you observed going to that Feeding
14 Our Future location were which people?

15 A. Individuals from the Minneapolis Police Department and
16 the crime lab from the Minneapolis Police Department.

17 Q. Now on the left and on the right, we see yet again more
18 meal count clicker forms, right?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. On the left, P63, page 2. On December 1st how many
21 supposed meals were prepared at that location where we just
22 saw the Minneapolis Crime Lab?

23 A. 2,003.

24 Q. And how many meals were supposedly served?

25 A. 2,003.

1 Q. And who was the sponsor?

2 A. Feeding Our Future.

3 Q. And who was the site?

4 A. Feeding Our Future, Taylor.

5 Q. Email address of Aimee at Feeding Our Future; is that
6 right?

7 A. Correct.

8 Q. Now on the right, let's highlight that very same day,
9 Wednesday December 1st. What do we see on the right?

10 A. Purported meal counts, a number of meals
11 received/prepared of 1955 and number of first served
12 children 1955.

13 Q. So in other words 2,003 children were supposedly served
14 meals under the name of Feeding Our Future, Taylor at that
15 site; is that right?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. And at the very same time, supposedly a whole other
18 additional 1,955 children were served at that very same
19 Feeding Our Future site?

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. Except double billed using a different name, Southside
22 Youth?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. And on the one on right, P78, who is the sponsor?

25 A. Feeding Our Future.

1 Q. What's the site name?

2 A. Southside Youth.

3 Q. Once again Aimee at Feeding Our Future.com or Feeding
4 Our Future.org, rather?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. And both of these supposedly separate Feeding Our Future
7 sites at that same location have a supervisor by the name of
8 Khadra; is that right?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. Also signed under Khadra's name at the bottom under
11 each?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Is that significant to your investigation in any way?

14 A. It was.

15 Q. How so?

16 A. She and her husband are the purported owners of the
17 Metro Area Catering Company that was very clear that the
18 money going to that was not used for its intended purpose.
19 The Federal Child Nutrition Program funds weren't being used
20 to purchase food.

21 Q. And P63 that we just looked at a moment ago, is that an
22 additional instance of a file record obtained by the search
23 warrant at Feeding Our Future?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Which I understand, Your Honor is not in evidence.

1 At this time, my apologies. I would offer
2 Exhibit P63 into evidence.

3 THE COURT: Any objection?

4 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

5 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

6 THE COURT: P63 is admitted.

7 MR. EBERT: Thank you, Your Honor.

8 BY MR. EBERT:

9 Q. And on that same note, are Exhibits P62, Special Agent
10 Kary, as well as P64, P65 and P66 additional instances of
11 records obtained at the Feeding Our Future search warrant
12 concerning the Taylor/Southside Youth site?

13 A. Yes.

14 MR. EBERT: The government offers Exhibit P64, P65
15 and P66.

16 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

17 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

18 THE COURT, I think you --

19 MR. EBERT: As well as P62.

20 THE COURT: P62, 64, 65, 66 are admitted. I am
21 not sure they are on your exhibit list, so I will just note
22 that.

23 MR. EBERT: All right. Thank you, Your Honor.

24 BY MR. EBERT:

25 Q. All right. Special Agent Kary, I want to direct your

1 attention to a few other days for which you obtained video
2 footage at that location. Okay?

3 A. Okay.

4 Q. On the left, is this that same image we looked at
5 before, P76a?

6 A. Yes. Early on when the pole camera was up, yes.

7 Q. And what is the time of day?

8 A. There it's 1:57 p.m.

9 Q. And in the upper right, do we see another meal count in
10 P66?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And that's for which site name for this location?

13 A. Feeding Our Future, Taylor.

14 Q. And in a moment in the bottom right, another count
15 clicker form; is that right?

16 A. Correct. This one is for the Southside Youth site under
17 the sponsorship of Feeding Our Future.

18 Q. Now, on the left, November 19th of 2021, a Thursday, did
19 you observe 2,003 children go to that location?

20 A. Absolutely not.

21 Q. Anything remotely close?

22 A. Not even close.

23 Q. Because 2,003 is what is listed on this Feeding Our
24 Future meal count form; is that right?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. And to be clear, 2,003, it is what was listed every
2 single day of that week; is that right?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Now, using the alternative name for that same location,
5 Southside Youth, are there additional meals that were
6 supposedly served per this form?

7 A. Yes. It lists 1956, I believe.

8 Q. I gather from your testimony you did not observe 1,956
9 children as well?

10 A. Absolutely not.

11 Q. All right. Moving forward, can you see the date that's
12 listed here in P76b? And I can enlarge it if it's difficult
13 to read.

14 A. November 25th of 2021.

15 Q. And in the upper right, what do we see?

16 A. We see after-school counts clicker for Feeding Our
17 Future, Taylor location, for the week of November 22nd
18 through November 28th.

19 Q. Okay. And on the right, is this the corresponding form
20 for the same location, except using that other name,
21 Southside Youth?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Okay. Now, November 25th, 2021, is a Thursday; is that
24 right?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. And Special Agent Wilmer was asked about a certain
2 holiday earlier this morning. Special Agent Kary, do you
3 know what holiday landed on Thursday, November 25th, 2021?

4 A. Thanksgiving Day.

5 Q. And how many meals were claimed on this day?

6 A. Just under 4,000 meals.

7 Q. And any significance to your investigation that these
8 amounts, 2,003 children plus an additional 1,956 children,
9 were supposedly fed at that graffiti building on
10 Thanksgiving Day 2021?

11 A. This is absolutely significant. It was confirming what
12 we had thought that these meal counts were ridiculous, and
13 claiming that amount on Thanksgiving Day, it -- when a lot
14 of things are closed, again, we didn't see that in the pole
15 camera footage, and it was unbelievable.

16 Q. And you said a lot of things are closed for
17 Thanksgiving.

18 A. Correct.

19 Q. People have the day off.

20 A. Correct.

21 Q. People travel.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Life is not the same on that day for so many of us. Is
24 that a fair summary?

25 A. That's fair.

1 Q. Have you driven past this location?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Do you recall when?

4 A. The day before Thanksgiving. I pulled in and around
5 that location, yes.

6 Q. And what did you observe the day before Thanksgiving?

7 A. Nothing happening at all. Essentially looked like an
8 abandoned building.

9 Q. No kids?

10 A. No kids.

11 Q. No food trucks?

12 A. Absolutely not.

13 Q. No parents?

14 A. No parents.

15 Q. Bags of food?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Any food?

18 A. Not that we saw, no.

19 Q. Yet, let's look at the day before. The day you drove
20 by, what was claimed under one name?

21 A. 2,003 for Feeding Our Future, Taylor.

22 Q. What was claimed the same day, same location, under the
23 other Feeding Our Future name?

24 A. 1956 meals.

25 Q. Did that happen based on your observations?

1 A. No.

2 Q. All right. On the left do we see Exhibit P76d?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Are you able to make out the date in the upper left
5 corner?

6 A. Yes, I believe it's December 11th of 2021.

7 Q. And there appears to be a significant snowfall on the
8 ground; is that right?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. And now you've observed all of the video footage?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Can you describe what you recall about the snowfall that
13 we see here?

14 A. I mean, the snowfall that we see here on the December
15 11th of 2021, reviewing the footage I know for the 11th,
16 12th and I think the 13th, definitely the 11th and 12th
17 there's not a soul that goes there.

18 Q. How do you know that?

19 A. Because there's nothing on the video footage that
20 indicates that. And then on the 13th, they never actually
21 plow anything at this location or take care of the sidewalk
22 at all.

23 And then vehicles get stuck right there trying to
24 get out on the 13th later in the day, so nothing's happening
25 at the location for three straight days.

1 Q. Is that what the meal counts show?

2 A. That is not what the meal counts show. They show a lot
3 of activity.

4 Q. Are those accurate claims based on what you know from
5 the investigation?

6 A. They are definitely not accurate.

7 Q. Are they even close?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Instead, in the series of days around that snowfall, do
10 we see on the left 2,000 meals supposedly served every
11 single day at that Feeding Our Future site?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Is that accurate?

14 A. No.

15 Q. And on the right how many?

16 A. 1955.

17 Q. Accurate?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Close?

20 A. Not even close.

21 Q. And then these continue on day after day; is that right?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. Day after day where there is a corresponding meal count
24 under one site name?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. A corresponding meal count claim under the alternative
2 site name, correct?

3 A. Correct.

4 Q. And is it, what is your recollection of what those
5 corresponding forms say week after week throughout December
6 leading up to the execution of the search warrants the
7 following month?

8 A. Similarly, the just over 2,000 and then the similarly
9 1950ish the entire months.

10 Q. Special Agent Kary, I want to direct your attention to
11 Exhibit V41. Now is this one of the CLiCS records that is
12 submitted and that is part of the interface between Feeding
13 Our Future and the Minnesota Department of Education?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. And at the very top do we see sponsor, Feeding Our
16 Future?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And under site information, what's listed?

19 A. Southside Youth.

20 Q. Again, one of the names we've been talking about that
21 you've been testifying about in your testimony here today
22 about at that location?

23 A. Correct.

24 Q. With the same address on Columbus Avenue?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Now, if we continue forward on page 4 of this exhibit,
2 who is listed as the contact information for that location?

3 A. Aimee Bock.

4 Q. And there's some additional information about the type
5 of center that's comprised at that location; is that right?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. In other words, it's denoted as a nonprofit?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. For classification, among the options checked is a
10 supposed at-risk center; is that right?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And then continuing on on this CLiCS form, at the very
13 bottom, do you see paragraphs 9 and 10, which I'll enlarge
14 on the screen?

15 A. I do, yes.

16 Q. Okay. What does paragraph 9 say?

17 A. Nine says meals prepared on site.

18 Q. Well, you've just testified about your observations
19 personally and your observations through the video
20 surveillance.

21 Did you ever see any indication that meals were
22 prepared on that site?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Now, beneath that, do you see where the header reads
25 Site Participation Status?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And there are two options, and one is marked
3 participating; is that right?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. And there are a series of certifications made on this
6 form to MDE about the supposed after-school program located
7 at that site. Do you see that?

8 A. I do.

9 Q. And what are those supposedly?

10 A. "I certify that the after-school care program at each
11 sponsored site operates after school hours."

12 Q. So I'll stop you right there. Did you observe any
13 indication of an after-school program at that site with
14 supposed after-school hours?

15 A. No.

16 Q. What's the next supposed certification?

17 A. "Provides regularly scheduled organized childcare
18 services, including educational or enrichment activities, to
19 enrolled school age children in a structured and supervised
20 setting."

21 Q. Now, you testified about the presence of the Minneapolis
22 Crime Lab at that location; is that right?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Well, did you ever see regularly scheduled organized
25 childcare services?

1 A. No.

2 Q. What about educational or enrichment activities at that
3 location?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Any structured supervised setting, from what you could
6 gather?

7 A. None at all.

8 Q. And what's the third supposed certification for that
9 location?

10 A. "Students who are part of school sports teams and clubs
11 can receive after-school snacks or meals as part of a
12 broad-based, overarching educational or enrichment program
13 offered by a school."

14 Q. Did you see any of those things?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Anything remotely close to supposed broad-based,
17 overarching educational enrichment programs?

18 A. No.

19 Q. I want to take a moment and direct your attention to
20 some of the files that Feeding Our Future maintained for
21 this site.

22 P63, is this a file folder recovered from the
23 Feeding Our Future office?

24 A. P66 is on the screen.

25 Q. Excuse me. P66, rather.

1 A. Yes, it is a Feeding Our Future digital copy of a folder
2 seized from the Feeding Our Future office location.

3 Q. And can you make out the writing of the file name?

4 A. FY21, FOF Taylor and after school/SFSP November.

5 Q. Now, within this, do we see a series of the same types
6 of records that we've seen throughout this trial?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Does that include invoices?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. Like this one on the screen?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Purporting to show daily amounts billed to the Federal
13 Child Nutrition Program of over \$7,700 apparently every day
14 at that location?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. This one, this one totaling and billing the program over
17 \$231,000.

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. Based on the investigation and your observations, is
20 this an invoice that you consider to be true and accurate?

21 A. Absolutely not.

22 Q. Why do you say, "Absolutely not"?

23 A. Based on the investigation and review of the evidence
24 and the bank records and the patterns that we've seen
25 throughout this investigation, this is another example of an

1 invoice that is just fabricated.

2 Q. And the supposed vendor is which party?

3 A. Metro Area Catering.

4 Q. And is that the party that you testified about a moment
5 ago?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Which according to the bank records largely did what
8 with the federal child nutrition money it got from Feeding
9 Our Future?

10 A. Spent it on other items not related to the Federal Child
11 Nutrition Program.

12 Q. Now, as we continue, in this particular file folder
13 recovered from the Feeding Our Future office space, is this
14 another invoice?

15 A. Yes, it is.

16 Q. And in the upper left, do you see a name and an address?

17 A. I do, yes.

18 Q. And what is it?

19 A. Afro Produce and the address of 2554 Como Ave.

20 Q. Now has the jury heard evidence already about Afro
21 Produce and this address on Como Avenue in St. Paul?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. What was that?

24 A. I think it was about the, how you could basically get
25 invoices by paying a certain amount, and you wouldn't

1 actually have to get all the food.

2 Q. Part of what Mr. Sharmake Jama of Brava Rochester
3 Restaurant discussed; is that right?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. And is this that same invoice party, Afro Produce?

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. Same address?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Fraudulent invoice as well?

10 A. Absolutely.

11 Q. Why "absolutely"?

12 A. The totals are outrageous, and the amounts are, they are
13 not substantiated with the overall investigation of knowing
14 the lack of things that were happening at the location. And
15 the amount and the quantity, it doesn't make any sense.

16 Q. Now, I want to direct your attention next to an email
17 message that is marked as A72 that is not in evidence.

18 A72, do you see that, Special Agent Kary?

19 A. I do, yes.

20 Q. Next A73. Do you recognize that?

21 A. I do, yes.

22 Q. Followed by A74.

23 A. I see that.

24 Q. And lastly A75?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Do you recognize that as well?

2 A. I do yes.

3 Q. Are Exhibits A72 through A75 additional records provided
4 by Google in response to search warrants?

5 A. Yes, they are.

6 Q. True and correct copies?

7 A. Yes.

8 MR. EBERT: Your Honor, at this time the
9 government offers Exhibits A72 through A75.

10 THE COURT: Any objection?

11 MR. UDOIBOK: No objection.

12 MR. MONTEZ: No objection.

13 THE COURT: A72 through A75 are admitted.

14 MR. EBERT: All right. Thank you, Your Honor.

15 BY MR. EBERT:

16 Q. Now, at any point did Aimee Bock correspond with
17 personnel from the Minnesota Department of Education about
18 this site location we're talking about in Minneapolis?

19 A. Yes. The Columbus Avenue location, yes.

20 Q. So for example A72?

21 A. Correct.

22 Q. Who was part of this email message?

23 A. It's an email message between Kendra Pace of the
24 Minnesota Department of Education and Aimee Bock.

25 Q. Dated August 20th, 2021?

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. And on here can you just read aloud what Ms. Kendra Pace
3 wrote to Aimee Bock on that day?

4 A. "Good morning. Please see the site list below. In
5 processing, we've noticed many of these sites appear to be
6 restaurants, apartment buildings or other office building
7 spaces. Do you have another site name we can use to help
8 identify the location?"

9 Q. And there's a series of Feeding Our Future sites here;
10 is that right?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. In fact, Feeding Our Future 1 through Feeding Our Future
13 27; is that correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. With corresponding addresses for each?

16 A. Correct.

17 Q. And is one of these 2854 Columbus Avenue South in
18 Minneapolis?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Showing you Exhibit A73, is this a response to that
21 message from Aimee Bock?

22 A. Yes, it is.

23 Q. And does she send that to a series of parties at MDE?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. Including Emily Honer, whom the jury heard from at the

1 very beginning of this trial; is that right?

2 A. Correct.

3 Q. Now, in response to that request for clarification, can
4 you please read aloud Ms. Bock's response?

5 A. "I am unclear what you mean by 'many of these sites
6 appear to be restaurants, apartment buildings'". . .

7 "If you mean the physical locations, then yes. If
8 you mean sites as that term is used in the federal
9 regulations, then no. These are all Feeding Our Future
10 sites. We are operating them. What do you mean by 'another
11 site name'? Does MDE have name preferences or protocols
12 that you would like us to follow in naming sites that
13 Feeding Our Future is operating? As you know, we have tried
14 a number of conventions at MDE's request and all have led to
15 problems."

16 Q. And so to be clear, who does Ms. Bock tell MDE is
17 operating these sites?

18 A. Feeding Our Future.

19 Q. Including the Columbus Taylor Avenue site; is that
20 right?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. Directing your attention to A74. Is this additional
23 correspondence on this same thread, this time dated
24 September 13th, 2021?

25 A. Correct.

1 Q. Does Kendra Pace say, "The name on the building so that
2 the meal location is easily identifiable on a map and in
3 person. Looking for clarification but can continue
4 processing as named"?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Directing your attention to A75. Additional email
7 correspondence between Aimee Bock and MDE?

8 A. Correct.

9 Q. At the bottom, is there a message dated August 1st,
10 2021, from Kendra Pace of MDE?

11 A. Not August. October.

12 Q. I'm sorry. October 1st of 2021?

13 A. Yes, yes.

14 Q. And among other things, did she write, "Hi, Aimee.
15 Reviewing CACFP site applications submitted in CLiCS.
16 Requesting clarifications and providing technical
17 assistance."

18 Did I read that correctly?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And she lists a series of different sites for which
21 she's seeking clarification; is that right?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And in paragraph 2 is one of those the site that you are
24 testifying about right now?

25 A. It is, yes.

1 Q. And can you read aloud what we see in paragraph 2?

2 A. "Two sites at address 2854 Columbus Avenue in
3 Minneapolis, newly created Southside Youth," and then it
4 lists the identifying number, "900019728 and the existing
5 approved site application for Feeding Our Future, Taylor,
6 with the Number 900019273. Please double-check."

7 Q. Now, to be clear, up above, there's a response to this
8 October, yes, October 1st message; is that right?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. Specifically, on October 4th, three days later in 2021?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And that response three days later, does it read from
13 Aimee Bock, "Thanks, Kendra. I have included responses
14 below"?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And so embedded within the text below, is there
17 responsive language from Aimee Bock?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And so if we go back to the paragraph you were just
20 reading from, after Ms. Bock is asked by MDE to please
21 double-check the two site IDs for that location, did Aimee
22 Bock respond?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. What did she say?

25 A. "This is correct. We have verified that it is different

1 youth being served at each of the locations in the
2 building."

3 Q. And to be clear, the building is the one we've been
4 looking at with the graffiti on the side; is that right?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. And this message is sent just a few weeks before the
7 video surveillance showed up; is that right?

8 A. Yes. On October -- in October, correct.

9 Q. Now, this message from Aimee Bock to MDE says, "This is
10 correct. We verified that it is different youth being
11 served at each of the locations in the building."

12 Right?

13 A. Right.

14 Q. Did the investigation and investigators take additional
15 steps with respect to verifying whether that claim was true
16 or false?

17 A. We did.

18 Q. What do we see on the left? What do we see on the
19 right, Special Agent Kary?

20 A. In exhibit on the left, P66 at page 14, we see a roster
21 listing the Feeding Our Future, Taylor meal counts, and it
22 lists a number of children, purported children, and their
23 ages.

24 And then on the right, we have Exhibit P77 at
25 page 7, which is the purported list of Southside Youth

1 after-school program for November of 2021. So both lists
2 are from November of 2021.

3 Q. Just days after Aimee Bock's message to MDE; is that
4 right?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Where, among other things, she says we have verified
7 that it's different youth being served at the locations in
8 that building?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. And these are portions of rosters contained in the
11 Feeding Our Future office files; is that right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And you've looked at these rosters?

14 A. Correct.

15 Q. Have you looked at the names?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Have you looked at the ages of the supposed children on
18 these rosters?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. What did you find out?

21 A. I found that many of the names and ages are overlapping,
22 and it's sporadic throughout, but there are definitely
23 overlaps of the same consistent name and age. However,
24 based on our investigation, I don't believe these children
25 are real.

1 Q. Why?

2 A. Based on a number of factors from the investigation of
3 the made-up lists, the groupings of the names, how it's
4 designed and the fact that we didn't see any children or
5 meal distribution happening. So many different reasons.

6 Q. And in fact in some instances, do you see the identical
7 children's names row after row after row that simply
8 duplicate for the same days?

9 A. Correct.

10 Q. For the same month?

11 A. Correct.

12 Q. At the same site?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Significance in the investigation, Special Agent?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Can you explain why?

17 A. It, again, was the same names, and it was especially in
18 this instance when it was confirmed that we're verifying
19 that we're not serving -- we're serving separate youth at
20 these locations and it just said it was separate youth. And
21 in Feeding Our Future's own files for their own site, they
22 have a roster that is overlapping with the same names and
23 the same ages of kids.

24 It was very significant and very clear that it was
25 not happening and it was not true.

1 Q. And yet in Exhibit A75, did Ms. Bock provide an answer
2 that was truthful in response to MDE's inquiry?

3 A. It was not truthful.

4 Q. In fact, she said just the opposite; is that right?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. She told MDE, "We have verified that it's different
7 youth," right?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And that was false?

10 A. Yes.

11 THE COURT: Counsel, in the next few minutes I'd
12 like you to wrap it up.

13 MR. EBERT: Thank you, Your Honor. I have just
14 one or two more questions.

15 THE COURT: Thank you.

16 MR. EBERT: Thank you.

17 BY MR. EBERT:

18 Q. Now, I'm showing you Exhibit V41, page 6. And is this a
19 portion of the CLiCS data that we've talked about concerning
20 the Minnesota Department of Education?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And on the bottom of page 6 of V41 for this Feeding Our
23 Future site, are there some internal notes about MDE's
24 inquiries about the site?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. In fact, do they quote that they have "checked with the
2 sponsor regarding two sites at the same address."

3 Did I read that correctly?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. And to be clear, the sponsor is which party?

6 A. Feeding Our Future.

7 Q. And does it indicate that they got a reply in response
8 to their checking?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And do they have a verbatim quote from Aimee Bock's
11 October 4th email message?

12 A. Yes, they do.

13 Q. In which she did what in response to their inquiry?

14 A. She lied.

15 Q. And, Special Agent Kary, in response to all of the
16 information that was submitted about that location in
17 Minneapolis, can you remind the jury how much money federal
18 child nutrition funds were dispersed for that location?

19 A. Over \$3 million.

20 MR. EBERT: Thank you, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: We'll end here for the week. We won't
22 have trial tomorrow, but we'll pick it up Monday morning at
23 9:00, and we will see you then.

24 Have a good weekend, everyone.

25 All rise for the jury.

1 4:59 p.m.

2 **IN OPEN COURT**

3 **(JURY NOT PRESENT)**

4 THE COURT: Mr. Ebert, do you plan to continue
5 with, with Agent Kary on Monday morning, or were you
6 finished?

7 MR. EBERT: I am finished with my direct, Your
8 Honor.

9 THE COURT: All right. So we'll pick it up with
10 your cross, Mr. Udoibok.

11 All right. Thank you.

12 (Court adjourned at 5:00 p.m., 02-20-2025.)

13 * * *

14 I, Renee A. Rogge, certify that the foregoing is a
15 correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the
16 above-entitled matter.

17
18 Certified by: /s/Renee A. Rogge
19 Renee A. Rogge, RMR-CRR

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