VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

“Red Flags: Identifying EBT Skimming and False Documentation”

Fraud Management / Compliance Division

Protecting benefits, supporting participants, and maintaining program integrity.

Our role is to protect participants benefits, follow policy, document concerns accurately, and route potential issues through the appropriate reporting process.

Code of Virginia

§ 63.2-522. False statements, representations, impersonations and fraudulent devices; penalty.

Whoever obtains, or attempts to obtain, or aids or abets any person in obtaining, by means of a willful false statement or representation, or by impersonation, or other fraudulent device, public assistance or benefits from other programs designated under regulations of the Board, State Board of Health or the Board of Medical Assistance Services to which he is not entitled or who fails to comply with the provisions of **§ 63.2-513** is guilty of larceny.

It shall be the duty of the local director, the Commissioner of Health or the Director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services to investigate alleged violations and enforce the provisions of this section.

A warrant or summons may be issued for each violation of which the local director, the Commissioner of Health or the Director of the Department of Medical Assistance Services has knowledge.

The local director, the Commissioner or the Director shall ensure that the attorney for the Commonwealth is notified of any investigation or alleged violation under this section.

Trial for violations of this section shall be in the county or city from whose local department assistance was sought or obtained.

In any prosecution under the provisions of this section, it shall be lawful and sufficient in the same indictment or accusation to charge and therein to proceed against the accused for any number of distinct acts of such false statements, representations, impersonations or fraudulent devices that may have been committed by him within six months from the first to the last of the acts charged in the indictment or accusation.

What to do when you suspect fake ID

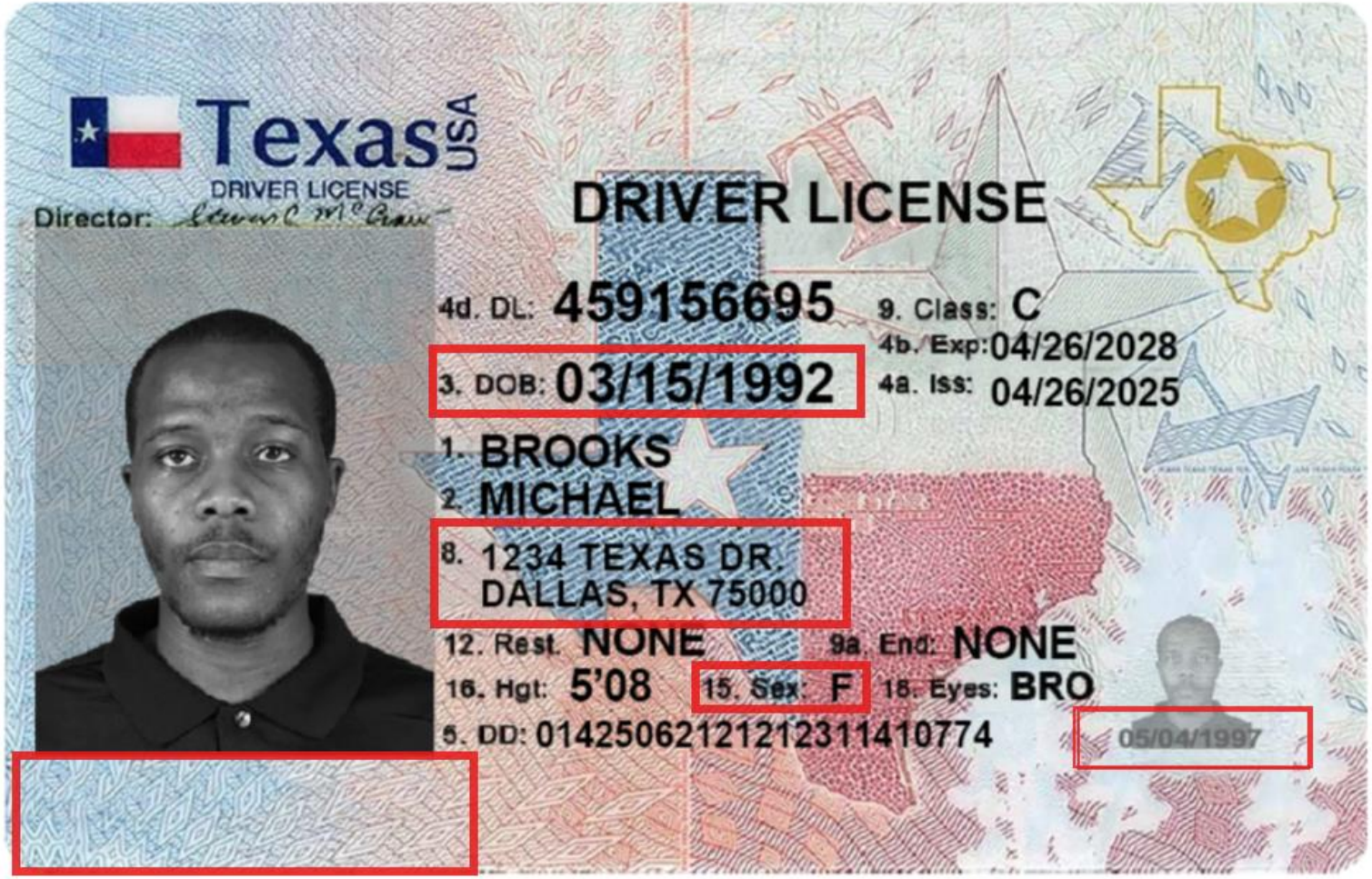
- Remain Professional
- Cross-Reference the information
- Document everything
- If verification fails, send a front-end referral to your Fraud Investigator
- Don’t assume out-of-state IDs are legit, check the out of state DMV

Detecting Fake IDs

Fake identification can take various forms, including:

- False ID: manufactured or computer generated
- Altered ID: valid identification that is altered to change critical information
- Borrowed ID: valid identification used by another person
- Height: Does the height listed reasonably match the person?
- State seal: Is it on the ID and is it in the correct place?
- Date of birth
- Age on ID vs. appearance

Fake License Submitted



1. Date of Birth Does not match
2. Address does not exist. 75000 Zip Code is not valid for Dallas, Texas. 1234 does not appear on that street.
3. Sex is listed as F (Female)
4. Signature missing.

$150,000

1[redacted]

3 beds | **2** baths | **2,479** sqft

Contact agent

1. Home Address is usually abandoned or for sale.

SVES: State Verification & Exchange System

[redacted] COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA TODAYS DATE: 08/07/2026

REQUEST DATE: 08/06/2026 SVES RESPONSE SCREEN 1 RESPONSE DATE: 08/06/2026

SOCIAL SECURITY NO: [redacted] CAN: BIC:

FIRST MI

NAME: [redacted]

DATE OF BIRTH: 03/17/1995

SEX: M

STATE AGENCY CODE: 049

RECORD CODE: 1

ERROR CONDITION: 120

DISCREPANCY CODES: TITLE II: TITLE XVI:

SSN VERIFICATION CODE: 5 CATEGORY OF ASSISTANCE:

VERIFIED SSNS:

CASE NUMBER: [redacted]

WORKER LOGON ID: [redacted]

SVES: Error Condition Code

Error Condition Code	N	100-102	Error conditions caused by invalid or missing data. 101 CAN invalid or missing 102 SSN invalid or missing 103 Both CAN and SSN are invalid 110 CAN unverified 120 SSN unverified 201 Surname missing 202 Given name missing 300 Date of birth not possible, or contains alpha characters or is missing 400 Non-alpha entry was entered in the Sex field 500 Input State Code requested a query for which they haven't been approved. No verification or other action will be taken 600 SSN not verified, other reason Blank Input data is valid

SOLQ: State Online Query

Worker Input Information

State Code	SSN	CAN	BIC	First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name	Date of Birth
049	[redacted]			[redacted]		[redacted]	[redacted]

SSA Information

Error Condition Code	Identity Discrepancy Code (Title II)	Identity Discrepancy Code (Title XVI)	SSN Verification Code	SSN Verification Data
(120) SSN unverified	(E) Surname, given name and birth date do not match exactly	(E) Surname, given name and birth date do not match exactly	(5) Name does not match (e.g., SSN submitted for John Smith belongs to Pam Jones); DOB was checked.	

Title II Information	NO
Title XVI Information	NO

In The News

Georgia SNAP Fraud Indictment

- **Alleged Scope:** More than 350 SNAP accounts using false identities, operating from 2020 – 2026**.**
- **Reported Financial Impact:** Approximately $4.6 million in benefits issued.
- **Federal Charges:** 46 counts of mail fraud; 15 counts of identity theft; one count each of SNAP Fraud and illegal transactions with access to devices.
- **Custody:** Reportedly arrested October 13, 2026, and placed with U.S Marshals Service custody.

Source: Dan Raby, CBS Atlanta, October 21, 2026. (All charges are allegations)

In The News

- **Account and Card Control:** Cards allegedly mailed to multiple Atlanta address and controlled by one individual.

- **Retailer Connection:** The store owner who allegedly also was the individual applying for the SNAP benefits obtained SNAP retailer authorization.

A Breach of Public Trust

Employee Fraud

- **Trusted Role:** A clerical supervisor and EBT coordinator was responsible for safeguarding benefit cards and could access recipients identifying information.
- **Alleged Impact:** Prosecutors linked the employee to 48 EBT cards, more than 270 unauthorized transactions, and $20,558.61 in benefits.
- **Why it Matters:** Misuse of employee access can divert household benefits and undermine confidence in public assistance programs.
- **Misuse:** Prosecutors allege the employee took cards and used recipient birth dates and partial SSN to activate a missing card. A witness said she supplied cards and PINs in exchange for Crack Cocaine.

A Breach of Public Trust

Report Concern Early

- **Recognize & Report:** Report missing cards, unauthorized transactions, suspicious handling of cards or PINs, and unexplained use of recipient information. Report concerns even when the employee holds a supervisory role.
- **Document Facts:** Document what you observed, when it occurred and relevant transactions or case references. Used approved secure channels; do not conduct your own investigation.
- Follow agency procedure for reporting to Fraud Management or an authorized office. If a supervisor is implicated, use an alternate channel. Early reporting can help limit further losses.

Source: New York Post, Ariel Zilber October 20, 2026

Data-Driven Skimming Detection Program

Overview and Current Success

Data-Driven Skimming Detection Program

Overview and Current Success

Program Overview

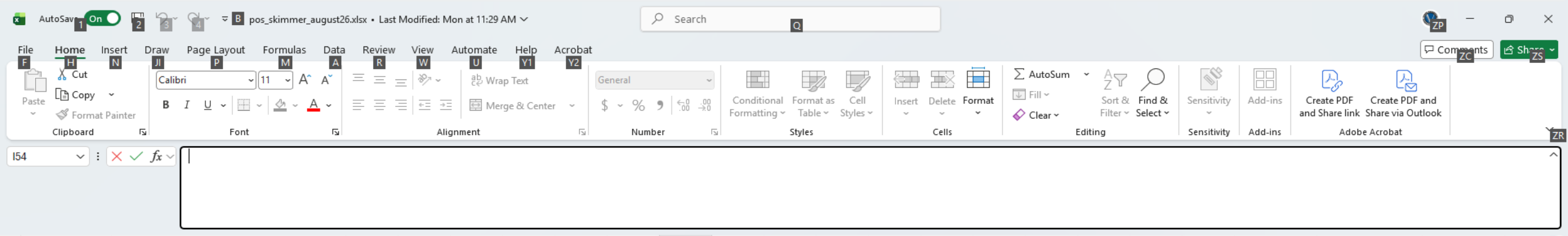
- Data driven program to actively locate skimming devices
- Algorithms identify likely skimming device locations based on stolen benefits cases.
- Monthly data pulled from fraudulent FNS transactions to find shopping commonalities.
- Each retailer store is given a percentage based on skimmed clients shopping there.
- Reports sent to local DSS agencies, local PD/Sheriffs, and Secret Service for store inspection.
- Local agencies inform Fraud Management of findings and remove devices if discovered.
- If device found, EBT cards used during device period are recommended for replacement.

Pilot Program Details

- Pilot Program (Started April 2026)
- Virginia currently sends out the 35 most likely locations in every each month.
- Dataset currently identifies over 6500 potentially compromised stores across Virginia.
- Pilot program identifies an average of 14 skimming devices per month.
- 38 skimming devices found to date, over 2000 compromised EBT cards replaced. Current cost savings of 1.579,622.78.

Program Success

- Strong partnerships with local sheriff/PD, State Police, Secret Service, USDA/FNS.
- Community outreach with Secret Service educating retailers about identifying skimming devices.
- Collaboration with Virginia DSS EBT & SNAP programs to better understand skimming impacts.
- Building internal DSS foundation to identify new fraud trends and protect program integrity.



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1	ebt_rtlr_nm	ebt_rtlr_addr_txt	ebt_fns	fips	State	numbe	first_fr	tt_futu	first_fr	fraud_c	tt_dolla	futurev	futurev	share_t	share_t	av_dfra	fraudcl	import	region	city_town	county	agency	Percenta
2	family dollar	2328 e princess anne rdnorfolk vaus	692045	710	VAUS	1	7-Aug-26	42	the marke	114263	2330615	262	262	27.3	27.3	17.6	97	0.231388	Eastern	Norfolk	Norfolk City	Norfolk	
3	family dollar	3116 high st portsmouth vaus	165962	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	26	the marke	58319	2330615	145	145	20.6	20.6	17.9	69	0.06872	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
4	family dollar	4231 greenwood dr portsmouth vaus	165968	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	24	frankford	124243	2330615	122	122	29.7	29.7	15	44	0.053213	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
5	dg 22814	dg 228142201 kecoughtanhampton vaus	750208	650	VAUS	2	1-Aug-26	14	frankford	77663	2330615	99	128	26.1	24.5	16.9	37	0.029977	Eastern	Hampton	Hampton City	Hampton	
6	dg 25708	dg 2570815490 warwick bnewport news vaus	6213413	700	VAUS	2	1-Aug-26	14	monegro	27970	2330615	73	98	25.9	24	19.1	31	0.018148	Eastern	Newport News	Newport News City	Newport News	
7	dg 18221	dg 18221201 beech dr newport news vaus	625528	700	VAUS	2	1-Aug-26	14	moon deli	83222	2330615	74	94	23.9	22.9	22	30	0.016985	Eastern	Newport News	Newport News City	Newport News	
8	wal-mart #6798	3350 e princess anne rdnorfolk vaus	486788	710	VAUS	21	7-Aug-26	16	the marke	75446	2330615	125	350	7.5	4.6	19.9	52	0.009972	Eastern	Norfolk	Norfolk City	Norfolk	
9	farm fresh vict	4000 victory blvd portsmouth vaus	651473	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	16	papo supe	74679	2330615	132	132	3.9	3.9	22	56	0.009618	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
10	food lion #2659	3539 airline blvd portsmouth vaus	3560724	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	19	frankford	119445	2330615	122	122	4.3	4.3	15.9	45	0.007904	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
11	tinee giant #35	2338 e princess an us norfolk vaus	160857	710	VAUS	1	7-Aug-26	12	the marke	13662	2330615	52	52	18.4	18.4	20.9	22	0.007045	Eastern	Norfolk	Norfolk City	Norfolk	
12	7-eleven	13307 warwick blvd us newport news vaus	937599	700	VAUS	2	1-Aug-26	21	nacho j an	21300	2330615	60	60	11.2	11.2	15.1	29	0.006493	Eastern	Newport News	Newport News City	Newport News	
13	food lion #1555	1503 london blvd portsmouth vaus	3709841	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	15	the marke	64345	2330615	121	121	3.3	3.3	16.9	48	0.006347	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
14	7-eleven	420 monticello ave us norfolk vaus	878353	710	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	18	monegro	18327	2330615	57	57	10.2	10.2	16.1	28	0.005415	Eastern	Norfolk	Norfolk City	Norfolk	
15	food lion #1299	3855 kecoughtan road hampton vaus	1108182	650	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	13	gonzalez f	83776	2330615	106	106	3.7	3.7	15.4	40	0.005298	Eastern	Hampton	Hampton City	Hampton	
16	food lion #1629	3530 tidewater dr norfolk vaus	4682262	710	VAUS	1	7-Aug-26	18	the marke	47019	2330615	122	122	2.8	2.8	19.8	46	0.005285	Eastern	Norfolk	Norfolk City	Norfolk	
17	wal-mart #3831	1098 frederick blvd portsmouth vaus	88939	740	VAUS	28	1-Aug-26	13	gonzalez f	55876	2330615	98	276	5.5	3.7	23.4	39	0.004667	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
18	food lion #0457	15435 warwick blvd. newport news vaus	3575845	700	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	14	monegro	36135	2330615	86	86	3.7	3.7	13.6	38	0.004014	Eastern	Newport News	Newport News City	Newport News	
19	wawa 8636	1200 frederick blvd portsmouth vaus	523383	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	8	frankford	46015	2330615	78	78	4.2	4.2	22.2	35	0.003811	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
20	park avenue mar	1024 park avenue norfolk vaus	3428338	710	VAUS	1	7-Aug-26	8	the marke	24838	2330615	45	45	12.7	12.7	16	18	0.003439	Eastern	Norfolk	Norfolk City	Norfolk	
21	dg 22814	dg 228142201 kecoughtanhampton vaus	750208	650	VAUS	2	1-Aug-26	6	gonzalez f	33052	2330615	29	128	26.1	17.4	19.9	15	0.002523	Eastern	Hampton	Hampton City	Hampton	
22	food lion #2675	2012 victory blvd portsmouth vaus	125914	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	8	frankford	49930	2330615	87	87	2.5	2.5	17.9	31	0.002288	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
23	7-eleven	408 oyster point r us newport news vaus	812547	700	VAUS	2	1-Aug-26	10	sq *e & a	15424	2330615	40	40	9.7	9.7	15.6	17	0.002199	Eastern	Newport News	Newport News City	Newport News	
24	7-eleven	3025 e. virginia b us norfolk vaus	722020	710	VAUS	2	1-Aug-26	7	the marke	28177	2330615	52	52	6	6	17.9	20	0.002069	Eastern	Norfolk	Norfolk City	Norfolk	
25	wawa 8612	4005 victory blvd. portsmouth vaus	203550	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	9	frankford	62299	2330615	57	57	3.6	3.6	20.2	30	0.002056	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
26	7-eleven	1510 brambletown a us norfolk vaus	800176	710	VAUS	2	7-Aug-26	7	the marke	33056	2330615	55	55	5.6	5.6	20.9	18	0.001857	Eastern	Norfolk	Norfolk City	Norfolk	
27	shell service s	shell portsmouth vaus	773066	740	VAUS	2	1-Aug-26	2	supermarl	8940	2330615	24	25	9.9	14.8	20.5	14	0.001662	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
28	food lion #1625	123 newmarket square hampton vaus	4861299	700	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	9	church fru	46981	2330615	83	83	2	2	20.9	29	0.001595	Eastern	Newport News	Newport News City	Newport News	
29	wawa 8672	720 london blvd portsmouth vaus	754462	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	8	frankford	37653	2330615	55	55	3.6	3.6	22.4	24	0.001587	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
30	royal farms 205	3601 victory blvd. portsmouth vaus	490844	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	7	frankford	52312	2330615	33	33	7.8	7.8	15.1	18	0.001548	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
31	7-eleven	700 mt vernon ave us portsmouth vaus	869061	740	VAUS	1	1-Aug-26	5	the marke	13618	2330615	35	35	6.9	6.9	20	18	0.001458	Eastern	Portsmouth	Portsmouth City	Portsmouth	
32	wawa 8633	3350 e princess anne rdnorfolk vaus	494656	710	VAUS	1	7-Aug-26	7	the marke	28167	2330615	58	58	3.5	3.5	20.3	21	0.001417	Eastern	Norfolk	Norfolk City	Norfolk	
33	dg 25708	dg 2570815490 warwick bnewport news vaus	6213413	700	VAUS	2	7-Aug-26	5	monegro	9921	2330615	25	98	25.9	15.6	21.4	10	0.001305	Eastern	Newport News	Newport News City	Newport News	

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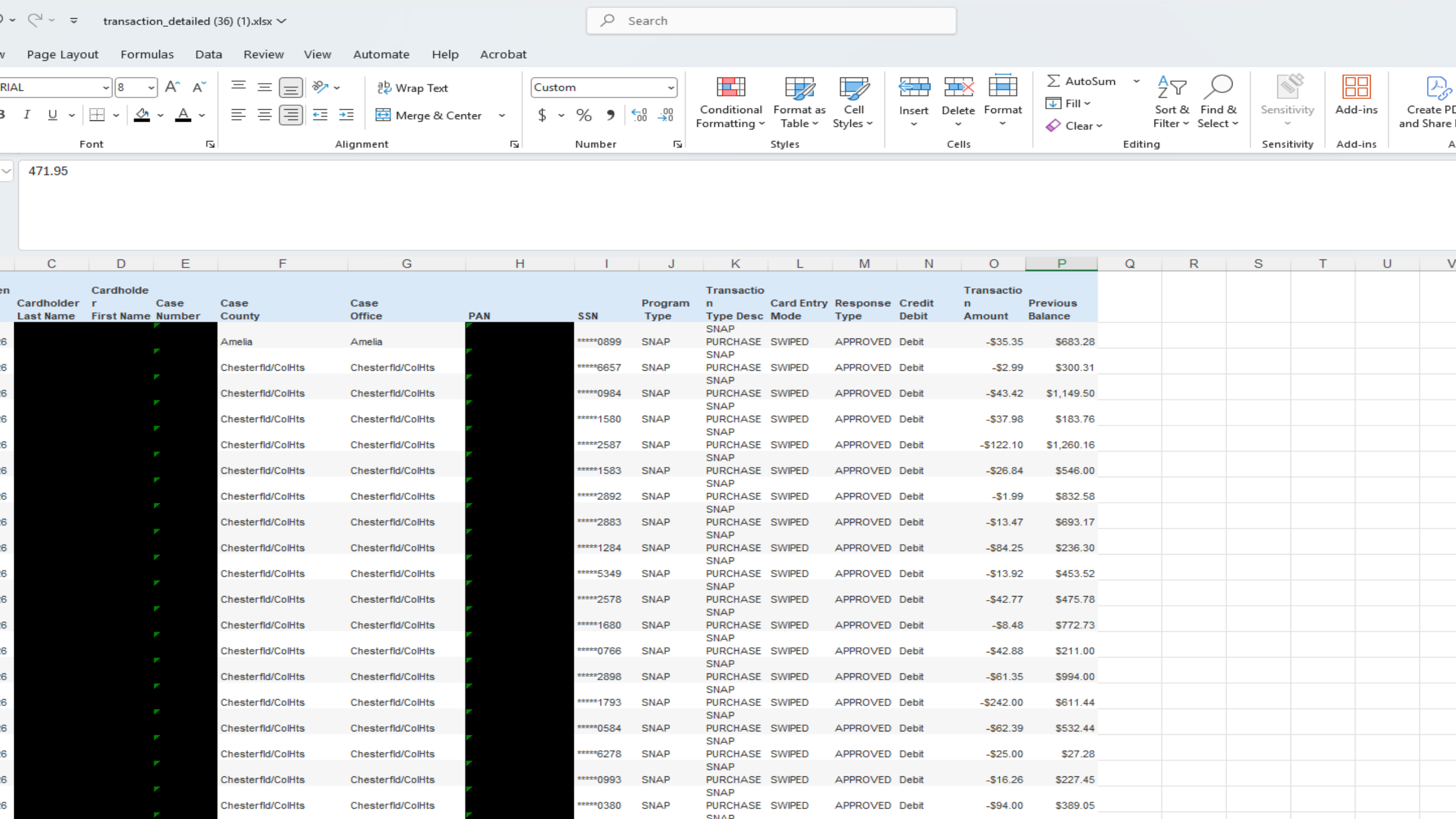
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

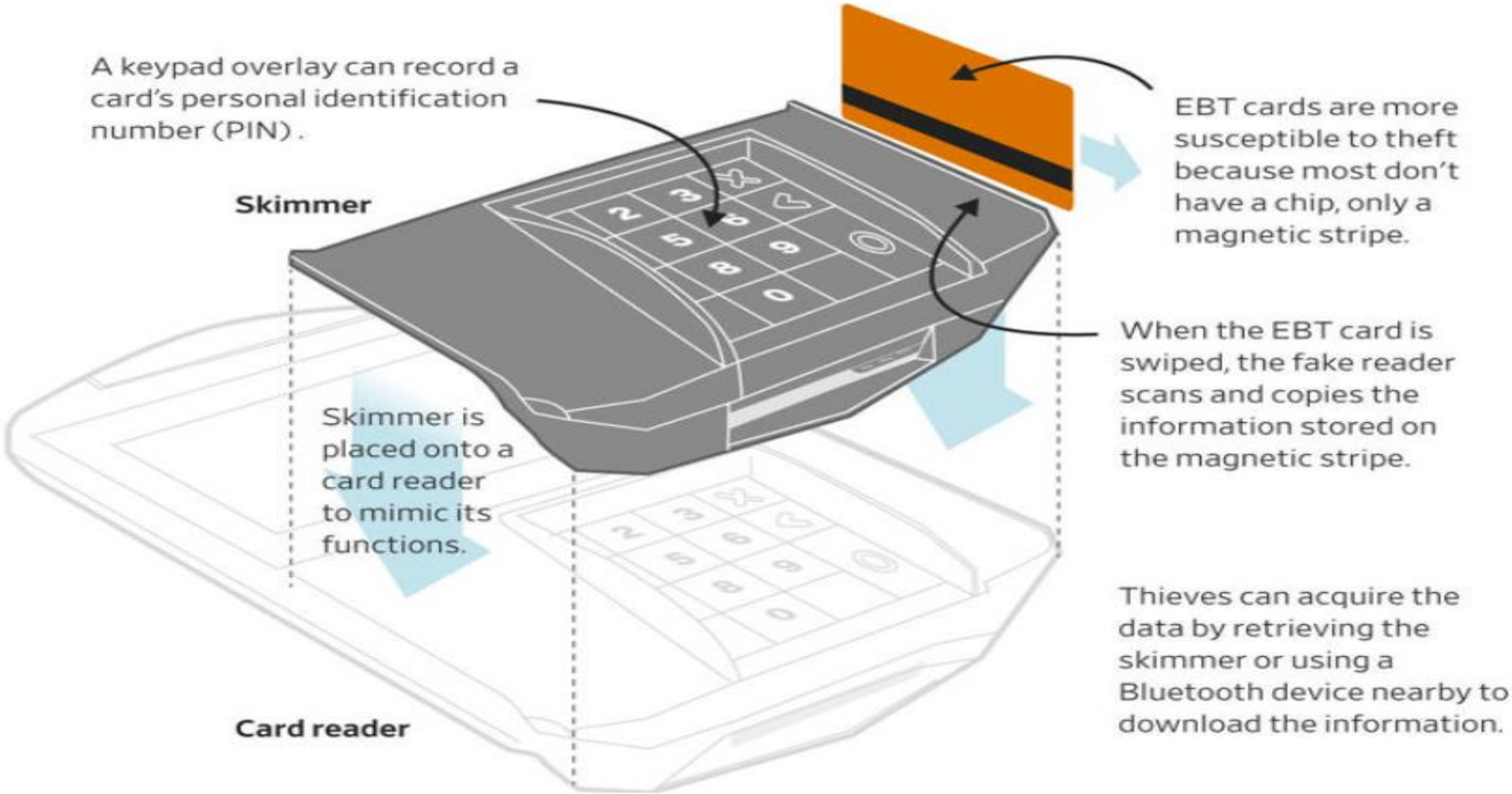


Cardholder Last Name	Cardholder First Name	Case Number	Case County	Case Office	PAN	SSN	Program Type	Transaction Type Desc	Card Entry Mode	Response Type	Credit Debit	Transaction Amount	Previous Balance
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Amelia	Amelia	[redacted]	*****0899	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$35.35	$683.28
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****6657	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$2.99	$300.31
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****0984	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$43.42	$1,149.50
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****1580	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$37.98	$183.76
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****2587	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$122.10	$1,260.16
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****1583	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$26.84	$546.00
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****2892	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$1.99	$832.58
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****2883	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$13.47	$693.17
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****1284	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$84.25	$236.30
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****5349	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$13.92	$453.52
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****2578	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$42.77	$475.78
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****1680	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$8.48	$772.73
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****0766	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$42.88	$211.00
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****2898	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$61.35	$994.00
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****1793	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$242.00	$611.44
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****0584	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$62.39	$532.44
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****6278	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$25.00	$27.28
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****0993	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$16.26	$227.45
[redacted]	[redacted]	[redacted]	Chesterfld/ColHts	Chesterfld/ColHts	[redacted]	*****0380	SNAP	PURCHASE	SWIPED	APPROVED	Debit	-$94.00	$389.05

Skimming Device recovery

Skimming Device recovery

Skimming Device recovery


A keypad overlay can record a card's personal identification number (PIN) .
Skimmer
EBT cards are more susceptible to theft because most don't have a chip, only a magnetic stripe.
When the EBT card is swiped, the fake reader scans and copies the information stored on the magnetic stripe.
Skimmer is placed onto a card reader to mimic its functions.
Thieves can acquire the data by retrieving the skimmer or using a Bluetooth device nearby to download the information.
Card reader

SELF CHECKOUT

Questions

Fraud Management: BRPO Fall Conference 2026