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City Attorney Zach Klein announces major victory as federal court blocks Trump administration's attempt to cut off food security for 42 million Americans

COLUMBUS, OH—Today, Columbus secured a major victory as a federal court granted a temporary restraining order in a case filed by the City and several other plaintiffs, which blocks the Trump-Vance administration's unlawful effort to halt the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) during the ongoing government shutdown. The decision ensures that millions of children, seniors, veterans, and families will continue to receive essential food assistance while the case proceeds.

Columbus City Attorney Zach Klein issued the following statement:

"In the United States of America, hunger should never be used as a political weapon. As an elected leader, an American, and person of faith, I believe we have a moral obligation to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless and extend care and compassion to those in need. This decision is a lifeline for Columbus children, families, seniors, veterans and all those whose lives would have been upended had their food security been ripped away from them in the next 24 hours.

"While thousands of Columbus residents who rely on SNAP to put food on the table will be able to sleep better tonight knowing they'll be able to get the help they need, we must continue to urge Congress to get a deal done to reopen the government and end the uncertainty for everyone impacted by the ongoing gridlock."

The administration's actions violate the Administrative Procedure Act and federal appropriations law by disregarding Congress's direction that SNAP must continue operating. Together, these actions unlawfully deny food assistance to millions and threaten the stability of local economies that rely on SNAP transactions.

**Editor's note: The judge issued an oral order in this decision. A written opinion will be provided once issued.*