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### Muscotah Woman Pleads Not Guilty to Welfare Fraud

(KAIR) -- A Muscotah resident has pled not guilty to a charge of welfare fraud.

Arlie Schmitter entered the plea Monday in Atchison County District Court.

She's accused of defrauding the state of Kansas over 17 hundred dollars in benefits.

A jury trial is set for August 6th.

County Attorney Gerald Kuckelman says the number of public assistance fraud cases he's received is rising.

That follows his push to see such cases prosecuted, voicing his willingness to do so to the Kansas Department for Children and Families last December.

Kuckelman is currently reviewing around a dozen cases for the possible filing of formal charges.

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