

## OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL CONNECTICUT

October 30, 2025

Re: Food Price Increases in Connecticut

The Connecticut Office the Attorney General is conducting an inquiry into food price increases in Connecticut since the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. One primary aim is to gather and assess information on food price increases to determine why food prices – unlike the prices for so many other products - have remained stubbornly high long after the end of the pandemic and determine whether potentially illegal activity is contributing to these high prices.

Our inquiry began by examining a number of Connecticut's major grocery retailers. Upon review of the information provided by these retailers in response to our inquiry, we cannot conclusively determine that any engaged in price gouging or illegal profiteering in violation of Connecticut law since March 2020. However, we stress that this conclusion is limited to the Respondents, who represent major grocery chains within the State, and the data and information provided.

The next step in this inquiry is to consider the role of other entities "upstream" in the distribution supply chain that may contribute to the persistently high food prices in Connecticut. We would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you in hopes of better understanding your views about food prices in the State, food pricing causes and practices throughout the supply chain, as well as address the concept of shrinkflation. Shrinkflation is a strategy used by manufacturers which involves reducing the size or quantity of a product while the price remains the same.

Please let us know your availability to meet and discuss these important issues at your earliest convenience.

Very truly yours,

Matthew Fitzsimmons

Chief Counsel