#### STATE OF MICHIGAN

# STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg No. 200918484 Issue No. 2009; 4031 Case No.

Load No.

Hearing Date: August 6, 2009

Branch County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Carmen G. Fahie

# **HEARING DECISION**

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 upon the c laimant's re quest for a hearing. After due notice, an in-person hearing was held on Thursday, August 6, 2009. The claimant personally appeared and testified with her attorney,

# ISSUE

Did the department properly de ny the claimant's applicat ion for Medical Assistance (MA-P) and State Disability Assistance (SDA)?

## FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds a material fact:

- 1. On January 9, 2009, the claiman t applied for MA-P and SDA without filing an application for retroactive MA-P.
- 2. On February 25, 2009, the Medical Rev iew Team (MRT) denied the claimant's application for MA-P and re troactive MA-P stating that the claimant is capable of performing other work per 20 CFR 416.920(f) and SDA that the claimant's physical and mental impairment does not prevent employment for 90 days or more.
- 3. On February 27, 2009, the department caseworker sent the cla imant a notice that her application was denied.

- 4. On March 9, 2009, the department received a hearing request from the claimant, contesting the department's negative action.
- 5. On April 22, 2009, the State H earing Review Team (SHRT) con sidered the submitted objective medical evidence in making its determination of MA-P, retroactive MA-P, and SDA e ligibility for the claimant. The SHRT report reads in part:

The claimant is 51 years old and alleges disability due to lupus, arthritis, and fibr omyalgia. She has a high school education and a hist ory of unskilled and semi-skilled work. The claimant has diffuse pain and fatigue. She had numerous positive fibromyalgia tender points in the past. Her exam has basically been unremarkable.

The medical evidence of record does not document a mental/physical impairment(s) that significantly limit s the claimant's ability to per form basic work activities. Therefore, MA-P is d enied per 20 CF R 416.921(a). Retroactive MA-P was considered in this case and is also denied. SDA is denied per PEM 261 due to lack of severity.

- 6. On August 6, 2009, the record was left open for the claimant to submit additional medical information of updated medical information, prescription records, and psychological records by November 6, 2009.
- 7. The department case worker contacted the cl aimant's attorney on December 15, 2009 and t he claimant on October 29, 2009 as a reminder for them to provide additional medical information.
- 8. On December 13, 2010, the Administrative Law Judge did not receive any medical records on behalf of the claimant and the record was closed.
- 9. The claim ant is a 53 year-old woman whose date of birth is

  The claimant is 5' 5½" tall and weighs 130 pounds. The claimant has gained 15 pounds in the last year as a result of her medication. The claimant has a high school education and one year of college as a medical administrative assistant. The claimant can read and write and do basic math. The claimant was last employed as a laborer in May 2004 at the light to sedentary level. The claimant has also been employed as a cashier and assistant manager.
- 10. The claimant's allege d impairments are weakness, arthritis, fibromyalgia, and COPD.

# **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The State Disability A ssistance (SDA) program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department of Human Service s (DHS or department) admin isters the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and MAC R 400.3151-400.3180. Department polic ies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

The Medic al Assistance (MA) program is est ablished by the Title XIX of the Socia I Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independ ence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, et seq., and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (PAM), the Program Eligibility Manual (PEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

# "Disability" is:

- ...the inability to do any substant ial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months.... 20 CFR 416.905.
- ...We follow a set order to determine whether y ou are disabled. We review any current work activity, the severity of your impairment(s), your residual functional capacity, your past work, and your age, education and work experience. If we can find that you are disabled or not disabled at any point in the review, we do not review your claim further.... 20 CFR 416.920.
- ...If you are working and the work you are doing is substantial gainful activity, we will find that you are not disabled regardless of your medical condition or your age, education, and work experience. 20 CFR 416.920(b).
- ...[The impairment]...must have lasted or must be expect ed to last for a continuous period of at least 12 months. We call this the duration requirement. 20 CFR 416.909.
- ...If you do not have any impairment or combination of impairments which significantly limits your physical or mental ability to do basic work activities, we will find that you do not have a severe impairment and are, therefore, not disabled.

We will not consider your age, education, and work experience. 20 CFR 416.920(c).

[In reviewing your impairment]...We need reports about your impairments from acceptable m edical sources.... 20 CFR 416.913(a).

- ...Statements about your pain or other symptoms will not alone establish that you are disabled; there must be medical signs and laboratory findings which s how that you have a medical impairment.... 20 CFR 416.929(a).
- ...You must provide medical evidence showing that you have an impairment(s) and how severe it is during the time you say that you are disabled. 20 CFR 416.912(c).
- ... [The re cord must show a severe impairment] which significantly limits your physical or mental ability to do basic work activities.... 20 CFR 416.920(c).
- ... Medical reports should include --
- (1) Medical history.
- (2) Clinical findings (suc h as the results of physical or mental status examinations);
- (3) Laboratory findings (such as blood pressure, X-rays);
- (4) Diagnosis (statement of disease or injury based on its signs and symptoms).... 20 CFR 416.913(b).

...The med ical evidence...mus t be complete and detailed enough to allow us to make a determination about whether you are disabled or blind. 20 CFR 416.913(d).

Medical findings consist of symptoms, signs, and laboratory findings:

- (a) **Sy** mptoms are your own description of your physical or mental impairment. Your statements alone are not enough to establish t hat there is a physical or mental impairment.
- (b) **Signs** are anatomical, physiological, or psychological abnormalities which can be observed, apart from your statements (symptoms). Signs must be shown by medically acceptable clinic al diagnostic techniques.

Psychiatric signs are medically demonstrable phenomena which indicate specific psychological abnormalities e.g., abnormalities of behav ior, mood, thought, memory, orientation, development, or perception. They must also be shown by observable facts that can be medically described and evaluated.

(c) **Laboratory findings** are anatomical, physiological, or psychological phenomena which can be shown by the use of medically ac ceptable laboratory diagnostic techniques. Some of these diagnostic techniques include chemical tests, electrophysiological studies (electrocardiogram, electroencephalogram, etc.), roentgenological studies (X -rays), and psy chological tests. 20 CFR 416.928.

It must allow us to determine --

- (1) The nature and limiting effe cts of your impairment(s) for any period in question;
- (2) The probable duration of your impairment; and
- (3) Your residual functional capac ity to do w ork-related physical and mental activities. 20 CFR 416.913(d).

Information from other sour ces may also help us to understand how y our impairment(s) affects your ability to work. 20 CFR 416.913(e).

...You can only be found disabled if you are unable to do any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or ment al impairment which can be expected to result in death, or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less t han 12 months. See 20 CFR 416.905. Your impairment must result from anatomical, physiologi cal, or psyc hological abnormalities which are demonstrable by medically acceptable clinical and laborat ory diagnostic techniques.... 20 CFR 416.927(a)(1).

...Evidence that you submit or that we obtain may contain medical opinions. Medical op inions are statements from physicians and psyc hologists or other acceptable medical sources that reflect judgments about the nature and severity of your impairment(s), including your symptoms, diagnosis

and prognosis, what you can still do despite impairment(s), and your physical or mental restrictions. 20 CFR 416.927(a)(2).

...In deciding whether you are disabled, we will alway some consider the medical opinions in your case record together with the rest of the relevant evidence we receive. 20 CFR 416.927(b).

After we review all of the evi dence relevant to your claim , including medical opinions, we make findings about what the evidence shows. 20 CFR 416.927(c).

...If all of the evidence we re ceive, inclu ding a II medica I opinion(s), is consistent, and there is sufficient evidence for us to decide whether you are disabled, we will make our determination or decision based on that evidence. 20 CF R 416.927(c)(1).

...If any of the evidence in y our case record, including any medical opinion(s), is inconsistent with other evidence or is internally inconsistent, we will weigh all of the evidence and see whether we can decide whether you are disabled based on the evidence we have. 20 CFR 416.927(c)(2).

[As Judge]...We are responsible for making the determination or decision ab out whether you meet the statutory definition of disability. In so doing, we review all of the medic al findings and other evidence that support a medical source's statement that you are disabled.... 20 CFR 416.927(e).

...A statement by a medical source that you are "disabled" or "unable to work" does not mean that we will determine that you are disabled. 20 CFR 416.927(e).

...If you have an im pairment(s) which meets the duration requirement and is listed in Appendix 1 or is equal to a listed impairment(s), we will find y ou disabled wit hout considering your age, education, and work experience. 20 CFR 416.920(d).

...If we cannot make a decision on your current work activities or medical facts alone and you have a severe impairment, we will then review your residual functional capacity and the physical and mental demands of the work you have done in the past. If you can still do this kerial individual indi

work, we will find that you are not disabled. 20 CF R 416.920(e).

If you cannot do any work you have done in the past because you have a severe impai rment(s), we will consider your residual functional capacit y and your age, educ ation, and past work experience to see if you can do other work. If you cannot, we will find you disabled. 20 CFR 416.920(f)(1).

...Your residual functional capacit y is what you can still do despite limitations. If you have more than one impairment, we will consider all of your impairment(s) of which we are aware. We will consider your ability to meet certain demands of jobs, such as physical demands, mental demands, sensory requirements, and other functions, as described in paragraphs (b), (conto) and (d) of this section. Residual functional capacity is an assessment based on all of the relevant evidence.... 20 CFR 416.945(a).

...This assessment of your remaining capacity for work is not a decision on whether you are disabled, but is used as the basis for determining the particular types of work you may be able to do despite your impairment(s).... 20 CF R 416.945(a).

...In determining whether you ar e disabled, we will conside r all of your symptoms, including pain, and the extent to which your symptoms can reasonably be accepted as cons istent with objective medical eviden ce, and other evidence.... 20 CFR 416.929(a).

...In evaluating the intensity and persistence of your symptoms, inc luding pain, we will cons ider all of the available evidence, including your medical history, the medical signs and laboratory findings and statements about how your symptoms affect you... We will then determine the extent to whic hy our allege d function al limitations or restrictions due to pain or other symptoms can reasonably be accept ed as c onsistent with the medical signs laboratory findings and other evidence to decide how your symptoms affect your ability to work.... 20 CFR 416.929(a). If you have more than one impairment, we will consider all of your impairments of which we ar e aware. We will consider your ability to meet certain demands of jobs, such as physical demands, mental dem ands, sensory requirements, and other functions as described in paragr aphs (b), (c) and

(d) of this section. Resi dual functional capacity is an assessment based upon all of the relevant evidence. This assessment of your capacity fo r work is not a decision on whether you are disabled but is used as a basis for determining the particular types of work you may be able to do despite your impairment. 20 CFR 416.945.

...When we assess your physical abilities, we first assess the nature and extent of your physical lim itations and then determine your residual functional capacity for work activity on a regular and continuing bas is. A limited ability to perform certain physical demands of work activity, such as sitting, standing, walking, lifting, carrying, pushing, pulling, or other physical functions (including manipulative or postural functions, such as reaching, handling, stooping or crouching), may reduce your ability to do past work and other work. 20 CFR 416.945(b).

Federal regulations r equire that the department use the same operative definition for "disabled" as used for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) under Title XVI of the Social Security Act. 42 CFR 435.540(a).

# "Disability" is:

...the inability to do any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months ... 20 CFR 416.905

In determining whether an indiv idual is disabled, 20 CFR 4 16.920 requires the trier of fact to follow a sequential evaluation process by which current work activity, the severity of the impairment(s), residual f unctional c apacity, and vocational factors (i.e., age, education, and work experience) are ass essed in that order. When a determination that an individual is or is not disable ed c an be made at any step in the sequential evaluation, evaluation under a subsequent step is not necessary.

First, the trier of fact must determine if t he individual is working and if the work is substantial gainful activity. 20 CFR 416.920(b). At Step 1, the claimant is not engaged in substantial gainful activity and has not worked since May 200 4. Therefore, the claimant is not disqualified from receiving disability at Step 1.

Secondly, in order to be considered disabled for purposes of MA, a person must have a severe impairment. 20 CF R 416.920(c). A sev ere impairment is an impairment which significantly limits an in dividual's physical or mental ability to perform basic work

activities. Basic work activities means, the abilities and aptitudes necessary to do most jobs. Examples of these include:

- (1) Physical functions such as walking, standing, sitting, lifting, pushing, pulling, reaching, carrying or handling;
- (2) Capacities for seeing, hearing, and speaking;
- (3) Understanding, carrying out, and remembering simple instructions;
- (4) Use of judgment;
- (5) Responding appropriately to supervision, co-workers and usual work situations; and
- (6) Dealing with changes in a routine work setting. 20 CFR 416.921(b).

The purpose of the second st ep in the sequential ev aluation process is to screen out claims lacking in medical merit. *Higgs v. Bowen* 880 F2d 860, 862 (6 th Cir, 1988). As a result, the department may only screen out clai ms at this level which are "totally groundless" solely from a medical standpoint. The *Higgs* court used the severity requirement as a " *de minimus* hurdle" in the disability determination. The *de minimus* standard is a provision of a law that allows the court to disregard trifling matters.

The objective medical evidence on the record further substantiates the following:

On the claimant had multiple x-rays at

- Chest—two views. T he radiologist's impr ession was the findings were compatible with emphysematous chronic obstructive pulmonary diseas e with no ac ute pathology. The lungs were relatively hy per-expanded and lucent suggesting emphysema with no infiltrates or pleural effusions. There was also no pneumothorax. There was mild to moderate kyphoscoliosis. (Department Exhibit 96)
- Left ribs. The radiologist's impre ssion was negative ex amination other than kyphoscolios is and degenerative c hange. There were no fractures and the r ibs appeared intact with no acute appearing abnormalities. (Department Exhibit 97)

On the control of the claimant underwent a physica of examination where the claimant had tenderness in the left ribs and abdomen on palpation as a result of a fall. (Department Exhibit 17-18)

On the claimant's treating specialist in rheumatology from wrote a letter stat ing that the claimant has fibromyalgia, chronic pain, and fatigue disor der, which m anifests as diffuse pain, fatigue, and hand/foot pain and weakness. (Department Exhibit 16)

At Step 2, the objective medica I evidence in the record indic ates that the claimant has not established that she has a severe impai rment. The claimant had a fall where she was treated and released on diagnoses for the claimant. The claimant is disqualified from receiving disability at Step 2.H owever, this Admi nistrative Law Judge will proceed through the sequential evaluation process to determine disability because Step 2 is a deminimus standard.

In the third step of the sequentia I consideration of a disability claim, the trier of fact must determine if the claimant's impairment (or combination of impairments) is listed in Appendix 1 of Subpart P of 20 CFR, Part 404. This Administrative Law Judge finds that the claimant's medical record will not support a finding that claimant's impairment(s) is a "listed impairment" or equal to a listed impairment. See Ap pendix 1 of Sub part P of 20 CFR, Part 404, Part A. Accordingly, claimant cannot be found to be disabled based upon medical evidence alone. 20 CFR 416.920(d). This Administrative Law Judge finds that the claimant's impairment is do not rise to the level necessary to be listed as disabling by law. Therefore, the claimant is disqualified from receiving disability at Step 3.

In the fourth step of the sequent ial consideration of a disability claim, the trier of fact must determine if the claimant's impairment (s) prevents claim ant from doing past relevant work. 20 CFR 416.920(e). It is the finding of this Administrative Law Judge, based upon the medical eviden ce and objective, physical and psychological findings that the claimant does hav e a driver's licens e and does drive only to doctors appointments because her medication caus es dizziness and double vision. T he claimant c ooks once a day, but has a probl em stirring and standing. The claiman t grocery shops twice a month but she doesn't buy a lot of items at a time. The claima int does clean her own home, but she has tro uble using both hands and she doesn't do it often. The claimant doesn't do any outside work or have any hobbies. The c laimant felt that her condition has worsened in the past year because it's impossible to do anything because of the pain. The claimant stated she has depression where she is in therapy at times and taking medication.

The claimant wakes up between 6:30 to 7: 00 a.m. She sits up and down where she's stiff for the first two hours. She cooks and takes care of her personal needs. She makes the bed and takes her medication. She lies on the couch. She t akes a nap. She eat s supper. She watches TV during the day. She goes to bed at 11:00 p.m.

The claimant felt that she could walk 1¼ blocks. The I ongest she felt she could stand was 10 minutes. The longest she felt she could sit was 15 minutes. The heaviest weight she felt she could c arry was less than 5 pounds. The claimant stated she is right-

handed. The claimant's level of pain on a scale from 1 to 10 without medication is a 10+ that decreases to an 8 with medication.

The claimant smokes a  $\frac{1}{2}$  a pack of cigar ettes a day. She drinks occasionally. She stopped using marijuana in Janu ary 2009. The claimant stated there was no work that she felt she could do.

This Administrative Law Judge finds that t he claimant has not established that she cannot perform any of her prior work. The clai mant was previously employed as laborer at the light to sedentary level. She was also employed as a cashier, which is performed at the light level in the nat ional economy. She was also employed as an assistant manager, which is performed at the sedentary level in the national economy. Therefore, the claimant is disqualified from receiving discability at Step 4. Ho wever, the Administrative Law Judge will still proceed through the sequential evaluation process to determine whether or not the claimant has the residual functional capacity to perfor m some other less strenuous tasks than in his prior jobs.

In the fifth step of the sequential consideration of a disability claim, the trier of fact must determine if the claimant's impairment(s) prevents claimant from doing other work. 20 CFR 416.920(f). This determination is based upon the claimant's:

- (1) residual functional capacit y defined simply as "what can you still do despite yo u lim itations?" 20 CF R 416.945;
- (2) age, educ ation, and wo rk experience, 20 CF R 416.963-.965; and
- (3) the kinds of work which exist in significant numbers in the national economy which the claimant could perform despite his/her limitations. 20 CFR 416.966.

...To determine the physical exertion requirements of work in the national economy, we classify jobs as sedentary, light, medium, heavy, and very heavy. These terms have the same meaning as they have in the Dictionary of Occupational Titles, published by the Department of Labor.... 20 CFR 416.967.

**Sedentary w ork**. Sedentary work involves lifting no more than 10 pounds at a time and occa sionally lifting or carrying articles like docket files, ledgers, and small tools. Although a sedentary job is defined as one which in volves sitting, a certain amount of walking and standing is often necessary in carrying out job duties. Jobs are sedentary if wa lking and

standing are required occasionally and other sedentary criteria are met. 20 CFR 416.967(a).

**Light w ork**. Light work involves lifting no more than 20 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing up to 10 pounds. Even though the weight lifted may be very little, a job is in this category when it requires a good deal of walk ing or standing, or when it involves sitting most of the time with some pushing and pulling of arm or leg controls.... 20 CFR 416.967(b).

...To be considered capable of performing a full or wide range of light work, you must have the ability to do substantially all of these activities. If someone can do light work, we determine that he or she can also do sedentary work, unless there are additional limiting factors such as loss of fine dexterity or inability to sit for long periods of time. 20 CFR 416.967(b).

The objective medical evidence on the record is insufficient that the claimant lacks the residual functional capacity to perform so me other less strenuous tasks than in her previous employment or that she is physically unable to do any tasks demanded of her. The claimant's testimony as to her limitation indic ates her limitations are exertional and non-exertional.

For mental disorders, severity is assessed in terms of the functional limitations imposed by the impairment. Functional limitations are assessed using the criteria in paragraph (B) of the listings for mental disorders (descriptions of restrictions of activities of daily living, social functioning; concentration, persistence, or pace; and ability to tolerate increased mental demands associated with competitive work).... 20 CFR, Part 404, Subpart P, App. 1, 12.00(C).

In the instant case, the clai mant stated that s he has depression where she is currently taking medication and in therapy. The record was left open for additional medica. I records to be submitted, but neither the claimant nor her attorney submitted any additional information. As a result, there is insufficient medical evidence of a mental impairment that is so severe that it would prevent the claimant from working at any job.

At Step 5, the claimant should be able to meet the physical requirements of light work, based upon the claimant's physical abilities. Under the Medical-Vocational guidelines, a closely approaching advanced age individual with a high school education and more, and an unskilled and skilled work history, who is limited to light work, is not considered disabled. 20 CFR 404, Subpart P, Appendix 2, Rule 202. 14. The Medical-Vocational guidelines are not strictly applied with non-exertional impairments such as depression. 20 CFR 404, Subpart P, Appendix 2, Section 200.00. Using the Medical-Vocational guidelines as a framework for making this decision and after giving full consideration to

the claimant's physical and mental impairments, the Administrative Law Judge finds that the claimant can still perform a wi de range of light activities and that the claimant does not meet the definition of disabled under the MA program.

The department's Program Eligib ility Manual provides the following policy s tatements and instructions for caseworkers regarding the SDA program.

#### **DISABILITY - SDA**

## **DEPARTMENT POLICY**

#### **SDA**

To receive SDA, a person must be disabled, caring for a disabled person, or age 65 or older.

**Note:** There is <u>no</u> disability requirement for AMP. PEM 261, p. 1.

#### **DISABILITY**

A person is disabled for SDA purposes if he:

- receives other specified disability-related benefits or services, or
- . resides in a qualified S pecial Living Arrangement facility, or
- is certified as unable t o work due to mental or physical disability f or at least 90 d ays from the onset of the disability.
- . is diagnos ed as hav ing Ac quired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

If the client's circumstances change so t hat the basis of his/her disability is no longer valid, determine if he/she meets any of the other disability crit eria. Do NO T simply initiate case closure. PEM, Item 261, p. 1.

#### Other Benefits or Services

Persons receiving one of the following be nefits or services meet the SDA disability criteria:

- . Retirement, Survivors and Disa bility Insurance (RSDI), due to disability or blindness.
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI), due to disability or blindness.
- Medicaid (including spend-down) as blind or disabled if the disability/blindness is based on:
  - .. a DE/MRT/SRT determination, or
  - .. a hearing decision, or
  - .. having SSI based on blindness or disability recently terminated (within the past 12 months) for financial reasons.

Medicaid received by former SSI recipients based on policies in PEM 150 under "SSI TERMINATIONS," INCLUDING "MA While Appealing Disabilit y Termination," does not qualify a person as disable d for SDA. Such persons must be certified as disabled or meet one of the other SDA qualifying criteria. See "Medical Certification of Disability" below.

- Michigan Rehabilitation Serv ices (MRS). A person is receiving services if he has been determined eligible for MRS and has an active MRS case. Do not refer or advise applicants to apply for MRS for the purpose of qualifying for SDA.
- Special education ser vices from the local intermediate school district. To qualify, the person may be:
  - attending s chool under a spec ial education plan approved by the local I ndividual Educ ational Planning Committee (IEPC); or
  - not attending under an I EPC approved plan but has been certified as a special education student and is attending a sc hool program leading to a high sc hool diploma or its equivalent, and is under age 26. The pr ogram does not have to be designated as "special education" as long as the person has been certified as a special education student. Elig ibility on this bas is continue s until

the person completes the high s chool program or reaches age 26, whichever is earlier.

Refugee or asylee who lost eligibility for Social Security Income (SSI) due to exceeding the maximum time limit PEM, Item 261, pp. 1-2.

Because the claimant does not meet the definition of di sabled under the MA program and because the evidence in the record does not establish that the claimant is unable to work for a period exc eeding 90 days, the claimant does not me et the disability criteria for SDA.

# **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusion sof law decides that the department has appropriately established that it was acting in compliance with department policy when it denied the claimant's application for MA-P, retroactive MA-P, and SDA. The claimant's hould be able to perform any level of light work. The department has established its case by a preponderance of the evidence.

Accordingly, the department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

Carmen G. Fahie
Administrative Law Judge
For Duane Berger, Interim Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: January 19, 2011

Date Mailed: \_January 20, 2011

**NOTICE**: Administrative Hearings may or der a re hearing or reconsideration on either its own motion or at the request of a party within 30 days of the mailing date of this Decision and Order. Administrative Hear ings will not order a rehearing or reconsideration on the Department's motion where the final decision cannot be implemented within 90 days of the filing of the original request.

# 200918484/CGF

The Claimant may appeal the Decision and Order to Circuit Court within 30 days of the mailing of the Decision and Order or, if a ti mely request for rehearing was made, within 30 days of the receipt date of the rehearing decision.

CGF / vc

