

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF: [REDACTED]

Claimant

Reg. No.: 2009-33330  
Issue No.: 3008  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Load No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date:  
September 21, 2009  
Wayne County DHS (35)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Aaron McClintic

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge upon pursuant to MCL 400. 9; MCL 400.37 upon claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice a telephone hearing was held on September 21, 2009 claimant was present and testified, [REDACTED] ES and [REDACTED] FIM appeared for the department and testified.

ISSUE

Was the department correct in reducing claimant's FAP benefits?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- (1) Claimant was a FAP recipient.
- (2) Pursuant to a scheduled review a verification checklist was sent to claimant on May 7, 2009 with a June 1, 2009 due date.
- (3) The Department did not receive claimant's mortgage documents prior to the due date.

- (4) A FAP budget was completed on June 26, 2009 with out the shelter expenses resulting in a benefit amount of \$16.
- (5) On July 18, 2009 claimant faxed a copy of her mortgage documents to the department.
- (6) Claimant requested hearing on June 13, 2009 contesting the reduction of her FAP benefits.
- (7) The parties reached a settlement and agreed that FAP benefits would be reprocessed for July 2009 using both the unemployment income and the mortgage expenses.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Food Assistance Program, formerly known as the Food Stamp (“FS”) program, is established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in Title 7 of the Code of Federal Regulations (“CFR”). The Department of Human Services (“DHS”), formally known as the Family Independence Agency, administers the FAP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq* and MAC R 400.3001-3015. Departmental policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual (“PAM”), the Program Eligibility Manual (“PEM”), and the Program Reference Manual (“PRM”).

Under Program Administrative Manual Item 600, clients have the right to contest any agency decision affecting eligibility or benefit levels whenever they believe the decision is illegal. The agency provides an Administrative Hearing to review the decision and determine if it is appropriate. Agency policy includes procedures to meet the minimal requirements for a fair hearing. Efforts to clarify and resolve the client’s concerns start when the agency receives a hearing request and continues through the day of the hearing.

In the present case, the parties reached an agreement. Since the claimant and the department have come to an agreement it is unnecessary for this Administrative Law Judge to make a decision regarding the facts and issues in this case.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Department and claimant have come to a settlement regarding claimant's request for a hearing. Therefore it is ORDERED that the Department reprocess claimant's FAP benefits for June 2009 in accordance with this settlement agreement.



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Aaron McClintic  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Ismael Ahmed, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 09/29/09

Date Mailed: 09/29/09

NOTICE: Administrative Hearings may order a rehearing 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 Hearings will not order a rehearing or reconsideration on the Department's motion where the final decision cannot be implemented within 60 days of the filing of the original request.

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

AM/jlg

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