

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.: 2009-35140

Issue No.: 2012

Case No.: [REDACTED]

Load No.: [REDACTED]

Hearing Date:

March 15, 2010

Wayne County DHS (55)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Colleen M. Mamelka

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 upon the Claimant's request for hearing. After due notice, a telephone hearing was conducted from Detroit, Michigan on Monday, March 15, 2010. The Claimant's authorized hearing representative, [REDACTED] of [REDACTED], appeared and testified. [REDACTED] appeared on behalf of the Department.

ISSUES

Whether the Department properly processed the Claimant's November 2007 Medical Assistance ("MA") application?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. In November 2007, the Claimant/Representative submitted a public assistance application seeking MA benefits retroactive for August 2007.

2. The Claimant/Representative did not receive a verification checklist or notice of case disposition.
3. On July 27, 2009, the Department received the Claimant's written request for hearing protesting the Department's failure to process the application.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Medical Assistance ("MA") program is established by Subchapter XIX of Chapter 7 of The Public Health & Welfare Act. 42 USC 1397 and is administered by the Department of Human Services, formerly known as the Family Independence Agency, pursuant to MCL 400.10 *et seq* and MCL 400.105. Departmental policies are found in the Program Administrative Manual ("PAM"), the Program Eligibility Manual ("PEM"), and the Program Reference Manual ("PRM").

A request for public assistance may be in person, by mail, telephone or through by an internet application. PAM 110 Any person, regardless of age, or his authorized representative, may apply for assistance. PAM 110 An authorized representative ("AR") is a person who applies for assistance on behalf of the client and/or otherwise acts of his behalf. PAM 110 An individual who is not a spouse, parent, legal guardian, adult child, stepchild, or other specified relative of the person, must have a signed authorization to act on behalf of the client, by the client, client's spouse, parent(s) or legal guardian. PAM 110 An AR assumes all responsibilities of the client and must provide his name, address, and title or relationship to the client. *Id.* The application form must be signed by the client or the individual acting as the authorized representative. *Id.* An application received from an agency is acceptable if it is signed by an individual and is accompanied by written documentation from the client authorizing the agency to act as the authorized representative. PAM 110 For MA purposes, an authorized

representative must be designated in writing by the client. *Id.* 110 If a client refuses to cooperate in the application process, a denial notice is sent within the standard of promptness.

PAM 115

In this case, the Claimant/Representative submitted a MA application in November 2007. The Department did not dispute this fact. The caseworker who originally handled the file did not participate in the hearing process. Ultimately, the Department agreed to register and process the November 2007 application in accordance with department policy. Accordingly, the Department's actions are not upheld.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law finds that the Department's actions are not upheld.

Accordingly it is ORDERED:

1. The Department shall, as agreed, register and process the Claimant's November 2007 application and notify the Claimant/Representative in writing of the determination in accordance with Department policy.
2. The Department shall supplement for any lost benefits (if any) that the Claimant was entitled to receive if otherwise eligible and qualified in accordance with Department policy.

*Colleen M. Mamelka*

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Colleen M. Mamelka  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Ismael Ahmed, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 4/2/2010

Date Mailed: 4/2/2010

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 90 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.

CMM/jlg

cc:

