

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2010-34100
Issue No.: 2009, 4031
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: June 23, 2010
County: Genesee (25-06)

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 Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, an in-person hearing was held on Wednesday, June 23, 2010. The Claimant personally appeared and testified on his own behalf with his authorized representative, [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Did the Department of Human Services (Department) properly deny the Claimant's application for Medical Assistance (MA-P), Retroactive 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 as material fact:

1. On June 1, 2009, the Claimant applied for MA-P and SDA with Retroactive MA-P to May 2009.
2. On January 29, 2010, the Medical Review Team (MRT) denied the Claimant's application for MA-P and Retroactive MA-P stating that the Claimant is capable of performing other work per 20 CFR 416.920(f) under Vocational Rule 202.11 and for SDA that the Claimant's physical and mental impairment does not prevent employment for 90 days or more.

3. On March 1, 2010, the Department caseworker sent the Claimant a notice that his application was denied.
4. On May 5, 2010, the Department received a hearing request from the Claimant, contesting the Department's negative action.
5. On May 24, 2010, the State Hearing Review Team (SHRT) considered the submitted objective medical evidence in making its determination of MA-P, SDA, and Retroactive MA-P for the Claimant. The Claimant is 50 years old with a limited education and a history of unskilled work. He alleges disability due to bladder tumor, numbness in his hands, back pain, and perforated bladder. Additional information is suggested to assess the severity of the Claimant's impairment. SHRT required updated medical records from his oncologist and/or urologist on his bladder cancer from [REDACTED] to present and a complete physical exam in narrative form.
6. During the hearing on June 23, 2010, the Claimant requested permission to submit additional medical information that needed to be reviewed by SHRT. Additional medical information was received from the local Department office and forwarded to SHRT for review on November 8, 2010.
7. On December 1, 2010, the SHRT considered the newly submitted objective medical evidence in making its determination of MA-P, SDA, and Retroactive MA-P. The Claimant is 51 years old with a limited education and a history of no gainful employment. He alleges disability due to bladder tumor, numbness in his hands, back pain, and perforated bladder. The Claimant's impairments do not meet/equal the intent or severity of a Social Security listing. The medical evidence on the record indicates that the Claimant retains the capacity to perform a wide range of light exertional work of a simple and repetitious nature. Therefore, based on the Claimant's vocational profile (51 years of age, limited education and history of no gainful employment), MA-P is denied using Vocational Rule 202.10 as a guide. Retroactive MA-P was considered in this case and is also denied. SDA is denied per Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 261 because the nature and severity of the Claimant's impairment would not preclude work activity for 90 days or more.
8. The Claimant is a 52 year-old man whose date of birth is [REDACTED]. The Claimant is 5' tall and weighs 140 pounds. The Claimant completed the 9th grade of high school. The Claimant is not a great reader and can write. He can do basic math. The Claimant was special education in all courses. The Claimant was last employed as a laborer at the heavy level in 1994 for 15 years. He has no current pertinent work history.
9. The Claimant's alleged impairments are bladder tumor with surgery in [REDACTED], previous history of bladder cancer, back pain from curvature of the

back, degenerative disc disease, bilateral carpal tunnel syndrome, arthritis, and perforated bladder in [REDACTED].

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The SDA program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MAC R 400.3151-400.3180. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Program Reference Manual (PRM).

MA-P is established by the Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers MA-P pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the BAM, BEM and PRM.

"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.

... We follow a set order to determine whether you 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 expected 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 medical 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 show 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 record 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 (such 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 medical evidence ... must 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) **Symptoms** are your own description of your physical or mental impairment. Your statements alone are not enough to establish that 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 clinical diagnostic techniques.

Psychiatric signs are medically demonstrable phenomena which indicate specific psychological abnormalities e.g., abnormalities of behavior, 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 acceptable laboratory diagnostic techniques. Some of these diagnostic techniques include chemical tests, electrophysiological studies (electrocardiogram, electroencephalogram, etc.), roentgenological studies (X-rays), and psychological tests. 20 CFR 416.928.

It must allow us to determine --

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

Information from other sources may also help us to understand how your 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 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. See 20 CFR 416.905. Your impairment must result from anatomical, physiological, or psychological abnormalities which are demonstrable by medically acceptable clinical and laboratory diagnostic techniques.... 20 CFR 416.927(a)(1).

... Evidence that you submit or that we obtain may contain medical opinions. Medical opinions are statements from physicians and psychologists 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 always 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 evidence 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 receive, including all medical 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 CFR 416.927(c)(1).

... If any of the evidence in your 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 about whether you meet the statutory definition of disability. In so doing, we review all of the medical 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 impairment(s) which meets the duration requirement and is listed in Appendix 1 or is equal to a listed impairment(s), we will find you disabled without 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 kind of work, we will find that you are not disabled. 20 CFR 416.920(e).

If you cannot do any work you have done in the past because you have a severe impairment(s), we will consider your residual functional capacity and your age, education, 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 capacity 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), (c) 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 CFR 416.945(a).

... In determining whether you are disabled, we will consider all of your symptoms, including pain, and the extent to which your symptoms can reasonably be accepted as consistent with objective medical evidence, and other evidence.... 20 CFR 416.929(a).

... In evaluating the intensity and persistence of your symptoms, including pain, we will consider 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 which your alleged functional limitations or restrictions due to pain or other symptoms can reasonably be accepted as consistent with the medical signs and 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 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), (c) and (d) of this section. Residual functional capacity is an assessment based upon all of the relevant evidence. This assessment of your capacity for 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 limitations and then determine your residual functional capacity for work activity on a regular and continuing basis. 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 require 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 individual is disabled, 20 CFR 416.920 requires the trier of fact to follow a sequential evaluation process by which current work activity, the severity of the impairment(s), residual functional capacity, and vocational factors (i.e., age, education, and work experience) are assessed in that order. When a determination that an individual is or is not disabled can 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 the 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 1994. 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 CFR 416.920(c). A severe impairment is an impairment which

significantly limits an individual'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:

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

20 CFR 416.921(b).

The purpose of the second step in the sequential evaluation process is to screen out claims lacking in medical merit. *Higgs v. Bowen* 880 F2d 860, 862 (6th Cir, 1988). As a result, the Department may only screen out claims 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 Administrative Law Judge findings. The Claimant underwent an independent physical exam with [REDACTED]. His chief complaint was bladder cancer. The Claimant had decompressive surgery of the right and left hand in [REDACTED]. He still has generally poor grip strength bilaterally of 3.5/4. The Claimant had an essentially normal physical examination. The independent medical examiner did note that he had crepitus in both knee joints. His gait was normal. The Claimant had severe osteoarthritis involving both knees and lumbar spine. Department Exhibits C-E, K-M, and 1-3.

On [REDACTED], the Claimant underwent an independent psychiatric evaluation at [REDACTED]. The Claimant was diagnosed with anxiety disorder and depressive disorder with a history of alcohol abuse. He was given a GAF of 58. The Claimant is able to manage his benefit funds. His mental condition can be expected to last for at least the next 18 months. He was moderately impaired in his mental abilities to understand, attend to, remember, and carry out instructions. He was mildly impaired in his ability to respond appropriately to co-workers and supervision and to adapt to change and stress in the workplace. His psychological condition would moderately

impair his ability to perform work-related activities. There was no evidence of a thought disorder and his stream of mental activity was spontaneous and organized. Department Exhibits F-I.

The Claimant's treating specialist submitted a progress note on behalf of the Claimant. His treating specialist performed a cystoscopy. He had red velvety spots on the posterior wall and the left side of the bladder. Biopsies were performed that showed benign urothelium with reactive changes, mild chronic inflammation, von Brunn's nests were present, muscularis propria was not present. Department Exhibits L-M

At Step 2, the objective medical evidence in the record indicates that the Claimant has established that he has a severe impairment. The Claimant has some physical limitations with his grip strength. He has arthritis in both knees and lumbar spine. The Claimant had depression and anxiety. Therefore, the Claimant is not disqualified from receiving disability at Step 2. However, this Administrative Law Judge will proceed through the sequential evaluation process to determine disability because Step 2 is a *de minimus* standard.

In the third step of the sequential 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 the Claimant's impairment(s) is a "listed impairment" or equal to a listed impairment. See Appendix 1 of Subpart P of 20 CFR, Part 404, Part A. Accordingly, the 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 impairments 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 sequential consideration of a disability claim, the trier of fact must determine if the claimant's impairment(s) prevents the claimant from doing past relevant work. 20 CFR 416.920(e). It is the finding of this Administrative Law Judge, based upon the medical evidence and objective, physical and psychological findings, that the Claimant does have some limitations with his daily living activities. The Claimant does feel that his condition has worsened because of abdominal pain. The Claimant stated that he has anxiety and depression where he is taking medication, but not in therapy. The Claimant does not smoke as he stopped in 2004 and used to smoke 1 to 1 ½ packs of cigarettes per day. The Claimant does not drink alcohol since 1990; he previously drank a 12-pack of beer per week. The Claimant has not used illegal or illicit drugs since 1990, before which he smoked marijuana. The Claimant did not feel there was any work he could do.

At Step 4, this Administrative Law Judge finds that the Claimant has established that he cannot perform any of his prior work. The Claimant was previously employed as a laborer at the heavy level in 1994. His past employment was at the heavy level, which he would have a difficult time performing given his physical limitations of his back,

knees, and grip strength. Therefore, the Claimant is not disqualified from receiving disability at Step 4. However, 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 perform 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 the claimant from doing other work. 20 CFR 416.920(f). This determination is based upon the claimant's:

- (1) residual functional capacity defined simply as "what can you still do despite you limitations?" 20 CFR 416.945;
- (2) age, education, and work experience, 20 CFR 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 work. Sedentary work involves lifting no more than 10 pounds at a time and occasionally lifting or carrying articles like docket files, ledgers, and small tools. Although a sedentary job is defined as one which involves sitting, a certain amount of walking and standing is often necessary in carrying out job duties. Jobs are sedentary if walking and standing are required occasionally and other sedentary criteria are met. 20 CFR 416.967(a).

Light work. 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 walking 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).

Unskilled work. Unskilled work is work which needs little or no judgment to do simple duties that can be learned on the job in a short period of time. The job may or may not require considerable strength.... 20 CFR 416.968(a).

The objective medical evidence on the record is sufficient to establish that the Claimant lacks the residual functional capacity to perform some other less strenuous tasks than in his previous employment or that he is physically unable to do any tasks demanded of him. The Claimant's testimony as to his limitations indicates his 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 Claimant testified that he had anxiety and depression and he was taking medications, but is not in therapy. See MA analysis step 2. The independent psychologist gave the Claimant a GAF of 58 that showed the Claimant had moderate symptoms. The Claimant completed the 9th grade of high school and was special education in all of his classes. The medical evidence on the record is sufficient to support a mental impairment that is so severe as to prevent the Claimant from performing skilled, detailed work, but the Claimant should be able to perform simple, unskilled work.

At Step 5, the Claimant can meet the physical requirements of light work, based upon the Claimant's physical abilities. Under the Medical-Vocational guidelines, a closely approaching advanced aged individual with a limited or less education and an unskilled work history who is limited to light work is considered disabled. 20 CFR 404, Subpart P, Appendix 2, Rule 202.10. The Medical-Vocational guidelines are not strictly applied with non-exertional impairments such as depression and anxiety. 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 could perform simple, unskilled, light work and that the Claimant does not meet the definition of disabled under the MA program.

BEM provides the following policy statements 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 no 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 Special Living Arrangement facility, or
- . is certified as unable to work due to mental or physical disability for at least 90 days from the onset of the disability.
- . is diagnosed as having Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

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

Other Benefits or Services

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

- . Retirement, Survivors and Disability 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 Disability Termination,**" does not qualify a person as disabled 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 Services (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 services from the local intermediate school district. To qualify, the person may be:
 - .. attending school under a special education plan approved by the local Individual Educational Planning Committee (IEPC); **or**
 - .. not attending under an IEPC approved plan but has been certified as a special education student **and** is attending a school program leading to a high school diploma or its equivalent, **and** is under age 26. The program does not have to be designated as "special education" as long as the person has been certified as a special education student. Eligibility on this basis continues until the person completes the high school 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 disabled under the MA program and because the evidence in the record does not establish that the Claimant is unable to work for a period exceeding 90 days, the Claimant does not meet the disability criteria for SDA.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of 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, SDA, and Retroactive MA-P. The Claimant is capable of performing simple, unskilled, 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 Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: January 12, 2012

Date Mailed: January 17, 2012

NOTICE: Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS) 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. MAHS 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. (60 days for FAP cases)

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.

Claimant may request a rehearing or reconsideration for the following reasons:

- A rehearing **MAY** be granted if there is newly discovered evidence that could affect the outcome of the original hearing decision.
- A reconsideration **MAY** be granted for any of the following reasons:

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- misapplication of manual policy or law in the hearing decision,
- typographical errors, mathematical error, or other obvious errors in the hearing decision that effect the substantial rights of the claimant:
- the failure of the ALJ to address other relevant issues in the hearing decision.

Request must be submitted through the local DHS office or directly to MAHS by mail at
Michigan Administrative Hearings
Reconsideration/Rehearing Request
P. O. Box 30639
Lansing, Michigan 48909-07322

CGF/pf

cc:

