

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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No: 201126549
Issue No: 2006; 3008
Case No: [REDACTED]
Load No: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date:
May 31, 2011
Wayne County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Robert J. Chavez

HEARING DECISION

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 upon claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, a hearing was held on May 31, 2011.

ISSUE

Did the Department of Human Services (DHS) correctly place claimant's benefit case into closure?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- (1) Claimant was a FAP and MA recipient in Wayne County.
- (2) Claimant allegedly did not return required verifications.
- (3) Claimant's benefit case was placed into closure.
- (4) On November 6, 2010, claimant requested a hearing.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) (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 or Department) administers the FAP program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MAC R 400.3001-3015. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Bridges Reference Manual (BRM).

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of Human Services (DHS or Department) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MCL 400.105. Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Bridges Reference Manual (BRM) and Reference Tables (RFT).

Under normal circumstances, the undersigned would begin a recitation of the applicable law, and state exactly how it was relevant to the current case. However, these are not normal circumstances. During the course of the hearing, the Department submitted one exhibit; the hearing summary.

The undersigned asked the Department if it wished to offer any more supporting evidence and was told by the Department that they were satisfied with their case.

Therefore, the Administrative Law Judge rules that the Department has failed to meet their burden of proof in proving that claimant failed to return required documents. No evidence was offered that claimant was sent these documents, and there is no

evidence that claimant did not return these documents. The Department did not allege specific dates or whether there was specific information that was missing. The evidence at hand did nothing to address the foundation of the Department's case—that the claimant had failed to return any documents, even assuming that the undersigned would uphold a document request when there was no redetermination or change alleged in the case. Therefore, the Department actions cannot be affirmed.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that the claimant did not fail to return any required documents.

Accordingly, the Department's decision in the above stated matter is, hereby, REVERSED.

The Department is ORDERED to remove all negative actions placed in the claimant's file arising from the current matter, and restore claimant's benefits retroactive to the date of negative action.



Robert J. Chavez
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 06/15/11

Date Mailed: 06/16/11

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 mailing 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.

RJC/dj

cc:

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