

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2011-42541  
Issue No.: 5016  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: September 26, 2011  
County: Wayne (82-15)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Jonathan W. Owens

**HEARING DECISION**

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37 following Claimant's request for a hearing. After due notice, an in-person hearing was held on September 26, 2011, in Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED] and, participating by phone, [REDACTED] from the Office of Child Support.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's request for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance with energy or utility service(s)?

**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 May 23, 2011, Claimant applied for SER assistance with energy or utility service.
2. On May 23, 2011, the Department sent notice of the application denial to Claimant.
3. On June 17, 2011, the Department received Claimant's hearing request, protesting the SER denial.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The State Emergency Relief (SER) program is established by 2004 PA 344. The SER program is administered pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and by 1999 AC, Rule

400.7001 through Rule 400.7049. Department policies are found in the State Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

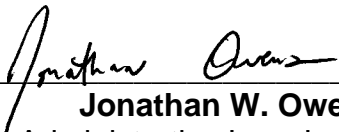
Additionally, the Department found Claimant ineligible for SER based upon Claimant being in non cooperation status with the Office of Child Support. The Office of Child Support sent a letter requesting that Claimant contact their office on June 3, 2009. Claimant first contacted the Office of Child Support following her SER denial on June 6, 2011. The original notice issued in 2009 was sent to Claimant's address. Per ERM 203, in order to be eligible for SER, applicants must be in compliance with the Office of Child Support.

Based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for reasons stated on the record, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department  properly denied  improperly denied Claimant's SER application for assistance with energy and utility services.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for reasons stated on the record, finds that the Department  did act properly.  did not act properly.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED REVERSED for the reasons stated on the record.

  
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**Jonathan W. Owens**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: September 28, 2011

Date Mailed: September 28, 2011

**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.

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:
  - 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

JWO/pf

cc:

