

STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS FOR THE
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 20114639
Issue No.: 3002
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Load No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: December 6, 2010
Wayne County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Aaron McClintic

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, a telephone hearing was held on December 6, 2010. The Claimant appeared along with his sister, [REDACTED], and both testified. [REDACTED], ES appeared on behalf of the Department.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly determine Claimant's Food Assistance Program benefits?

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 an ongoing recipient of FAP benefits.
- (2) The Department determined that Claimant's FAP benefits would decrease from \$200 to \$16 due to receipt of unemployment benefits.
- (3) Claimant does not receive unemployment compensation.
- (4) Claimant requested a hearing on October 12, 2010 contesting the reduction of FAP.

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"), formerly 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 Bridges Administrative Manual ("BAM"), the Bridges Eligibility Manual ("BEM"), and the Program Reference Manual ("PRM").

In the present case, Claimant credibly testified that he does not receive unemployment compensation. It appears that Claimant has been the victim of identity theft and someone is receiving benefits using his name. The address listed in the unearned income summary presented by the Department is not Claimant's address. Claimant has reported this issue to the unemployment agency. Unemployment income should not have been budgeted, therefore the Department's determination of Claimant's FAP benefits is incorrect.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, finds that the Department improperly determined the Claimant's FAP benefits, and it is ORDERED that the Department's decision in this regard be and is hereby REVERSED. Claimant's FAP case shall be rebudgeted as of the date of reduction removing unemployment income. Any increase in benefits shall be paid to Claimant in the form of a supplement.



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

Date Signed: December 10, 2010

Date Mailed: December 10, 2010

20114639/AM

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 of the rehearing decision.

AM/hw

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