

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



Reg. No.: 2011-42484  
Issue No.: 2006; 3008  
Case No.:   
Hearing Date: August 31, 2011  
County: Wayne County DHS (55)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Andrea J. Bradley

**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, a telephone hearing was held on August 31, 2011, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant, . Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included Francine Harrison, Family Independence Specialist.

**ISSUE**

Due to a failure to comply with the verification requirements, did the Department properly  deny Claimant's application  close Claimant's case  reduce Claimant's benefits for:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Independence Program (FIP)?        | <input type="checkbox"/> State Disability Assistance (SDA)? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Food Assistance Program (FAP)? | <input type="checkbox"/> Child Development and Care (CDC)?  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Assistance (MA)?       |   |

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. Claimant  applied for  was receiving:  FIP  FAP  MA  SDA  CDC.
2. Claimant  was  was mailed a Verification Checklist (DHS-3503),  and it was received,  but it was not received.

3. Claimant was required to submit requested verification by May 27, 2011.
4. On June 1, 2011, the Department
  - denied Claimant's application
  - closed Claimant's case
  - reduced Claimant's benefitsfor failure to submit verification in a timely manner.
5. On May 31, 2011, the Department sent notice of the
  - denial of Claimant's application.
  - closure of Claimant's case.
  - reduction of Claimant's benefits.
6. On July 14, 2011, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the
  - denial.  closure.  reduction.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Department policies are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Public Law 104-193, 42 USC 601, *et seq.* The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FIP pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and 1997 AACS R 400.3101-3131. FIP replaced the Aid to Dependent Children (ADC) program effective October 1, 1996.

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 (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and 1997 AACS R 400.3001-3015

The Medical Assistance (MA) program 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 the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MCL 400.105.

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program which provides financial assistance for disabled persons is established by 2004 PA 344. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and 1998-2000 AACS R 400.3151-400.3180.

The Child Development and Care (CDC) program is established by Titles IVA, IVE and XX of the Social Security Act, the Child Care and Development Block Grant of 1990, and the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996. The program is implemented by Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Parts 98 and 99. The Department provides services to adults and children pursuant to MCL 400.14(1) and 1997 AACS R 400.5001-5015.

Additionally, the Claimant testified that she resided at a homeless shelter for ninety days beginning [REDACTED]. The Claimant's original application listed her current address. The Department submitted evidence showing that on November 19, 2010, the Claimant submitted a second application and she listed the homeless shelter as emergency housing, which she left on [REDACTED], and the evidence further showed that Claimant listed her current address as the appropriate mailing address. The Department incorrectly sent mail to Claimant after the [REDACTED] date to the emergency shelter instead of the listed mailing address. The Department admitted that it committed an error by sending all correspondence to the homeless shelter instead of using the mailing address. Accordingly, the Department failed to establish that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it closed the Claimant's MA and FAP benefit case for failure to return the requested information or appear for the redetermination interview.

Based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department

properly       improperly

- closed Claimant's case.
- denied Claimant's application.
- reduced Claimant's benefits.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, finds that the Department

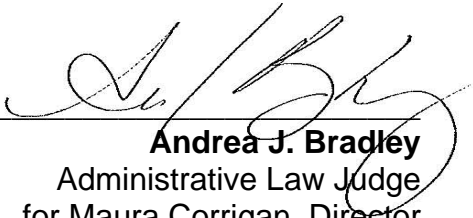
did act properly.       did not act properly.

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

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO DO THE FOLLOWING WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

1. The Department shall initiate reinstatement of the Claimant's MA and FAP benefits based on the Claimant's June 2009 application for MA and FAP benefits in accordance with Department policy.
2. The Department shall register and initiate reprocessing of the Claimant's November 16, 2010 application for MA and SDA by sending the medical verifications necessary to determine eligibility in accordance with Department policy.

3. The Department shall notify the Claimant of the Department's decision regarding eligibility in writing at the Claimant's permanent address.
4. The Department shall supplement the Claimant for any lost benefits she was eligible and qualified to receive, but-for the May 31, 2011 negative action, in accordance with Department policy.



**Andrea J. Bradley**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 9/21/11

Date Mailed: 9/21/11

**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.

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

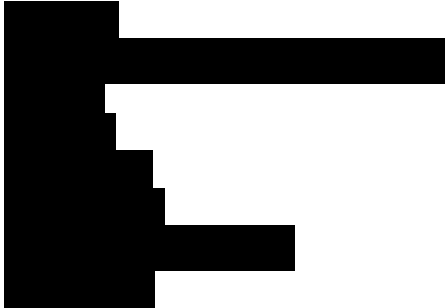
- A rehearing **MAY** be granted if there is newly discovered evidence that could affect the outcome of the original hearing decision.
- A reconsideration **MAY** be granted for any of the following reasons:
  - misapplication of manual policy or law in the hearing decision,
  - typographical errors, 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

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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

AJB/sm

cc:

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the email addresses listed in the 'cc:' field. The redaction is complete, obscuring all text in this section.