

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2012-53006  
Issue No.: 3015, 5020  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: June 19, 2012  
County: Oakland 03

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** C. Adam Purnell

**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 June 19, 2012, from Lansing, Michigan. Claimant personally appeared and provided testimony. Participants on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED] (Eligibility Specialist) and [REDACTED] (Assistance Payments Supervisor).

**ISSUES**

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's application for State Emergency Relief (SER) for energy or utility assistance due to excess income?

Did the Department properly determined Claimant's Food Assistance Program (FAP) monthly allotment?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. Claimant was active for FAP with a monthly allotment of [REDACTED].
2. Claimant had a group size of 2.
3. On March 21, 2012, the Department closed Claimant's FAP due to excess income after the household monthly unearned income from RSDI increased to [REDACTED].
4. On April 30, 2012, Claimant applied for SER assistance with energy or utility service.

5. On May 1, 2012, the Department sent notice of the SER application denial due to excess income to Claimant.
6. On May 8, 2012, the Department received Claimant's hearing request, protesting the SER denial and the FAP closure.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

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

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 Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 through R 400.3015.

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 1993 AACS R 400.7001-400.7049. Department policies are found in the State Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

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 Claimant's SER application for assistance with energy and utility services and properly closed Claimant's FAP case due to excess income.

### **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 when it closed Claimant's FAP and denied Claimant's SER application for energy and utility service.

Accordingly, the Department's FAP and SER decisions are AFFIRMED for the reasons stated on the record.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/

**C. Adam Purnell**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 6/29/12

Date Mailed: 6/29/12

**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:
  - 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

CAP/ds

