

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2012-4952  
Issue No.: 2009, 4031  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: June 11, 2012  
Wayne County DHS (43)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Lynn M. Ferris

**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 in Detroit, Michigan on June 11, 2012. The Claimant appeared and testified. Agnes Whitfield appeared as a witness for the Claimant. [REDACTED] ES appeared on behalf of the Department of Human Services ("Department").

**ISSUE**

Whether the Department properly determined that the Claimant was not disabled for purposes of the Medical Assistance ("MA-P") and State Disability Assistance ("SDA") benefit programs?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. The Claimant submitted an application for public assistance seeking MA-P benefits and SDA benefits on October 4, 2011.
2. On March 7, 2012 the Medical Review Team ("MRT") found the Claimant not disabled. (Exhibit 1)
3. The Department notified the Claimant of the MRT determination on March 13, 2012.

4. On May 14, 2012 the Department received the Claimant's timely written request for hearing.
5. On May 14, 2012, the State Hearing Review Team ("SHRT") found the Claimant not disabled. (Exhibit 2)
6. An Interim Order was issued on June 13, 2012 and additional evidence was ordered to be obtained and submitted.
7. The new evidence was submitted to the State Hearing Review Team for its review on November 9, 2012.
8. On January 24, 2013 the State Hearing Review Team found the Claimant not disabled.
9. The Claimant alleged mental disabling impairments due to major depressive disorder and anxiety.
10. The Claimant alleged physical disabling impairments due to polyarthritis, osteoarthritis, and rheumatoid arthritis and generalized joint pain.
11. At the time of hearing, the Claimant was [REDACTED] years old with a [REDACTED] birth date; the Claimant is now [REDACTED] years of age. The Claimant was 5'2" in height; and weighed 125 pounds.
12. The Claimant has the equivalent of a high school education with some completion of college course work with no degree obtained. The Claimant has an employment history last working 2001 performing customer services representative work, general clerical work and working as a receptionist.
13. The Claimant's impairments have lasted, or are expected to last, continuously for a period of 12 months or longer.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Medical Assistance program is established by Subchapter XIX of Chapter 7 of The Public Health & Welfare Act, 42 USC 1397, and is administered by the Department of Human Services, formerly known as the Family Independence Agency, 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 Tables ("RFT").

Disability is defined as the inability to do any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment which can be expected to result in death or which has lasted or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 12 months. 20 CFR 416.905(a). The person claiming a physical or mental disability has the burden to establish it through the use of competent medical evidence from qualified medical sources such as his or her medical history, clinical/laboratory findings, diagnosis/prescribed treatment, prognosis for recovery and/or medical assessment of ability to do work-related activities or ability to reason and make appropriate mental adjustments, if a mental disability is alleged. 20 CFR 416.913. An individual's subjective pain complaints are not, in and of themselves, sufficient to establish disability. 20 CFR 416.908; 20 CFR 416.929(a). Similarly, conclusory statements by a physician or mental health professional that an individual is disabled or blind, absent supporting medical evidence, is insufficient to establish disability. 20 CFR 416.927

When determining disability, the federal regulations require several factors to be considered including: (1) the location/duration/frequency/intensity of an applicant's pain; (2) the type/dosage/effectiveness/side effects of any medication the applicant takes to relieve pain; (3) any treatment other than pain medication that the applicant has received to relieve pain; and (4) the effect of the applicant's pain on his or her ability to do basic work activities. 20 CFR 416.929(c)(3). The applicant's pain must be assessed to determine the extent of his or her functional limitation(s) in light of the objective medical evidence presented. 20 CFR 416.929(c)(2).

In order to determine whether or not an individual is disabled, federal regulations require a five-step sequential evaluation process be utilized. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(1) The five-step analysis requires the trier of fact to consider an individual's current work activity; the severity of the impairment(s) both in duration and whether it meets or equals a listed impairment in Appendix 1; residual functional capacity to determine whether an individual can perform past relevant work; and residual functional capacity along with vocational factors (i.e. age, education, and work experience) to determine if an individual can adjust to other work. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4); 20 CFR 416.945

If an individual is found disabled, or not disabled, at any step, a determination or decision is made with no need evaluate subsequent steps. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4) If a determination cannot be made that an individual is disabled, or not disabled, at a particular step, the next step is required. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4) If an impairment does not meet or equal a listed impairment, an individual's residual functional capacity is assessed before moving from step three to step four. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4); 20 CFR 416.945 Residual functional capacity is the most an individual can do despite the limitations based on all relevant evidence. 20 CFR 945(a)(1) An individual's residual functional capacity assessment is evaluated at both steps four and five. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4) In determining disability, an individual's functional capacity to perform

basic work activities is evaluated and if found that the individual has the ability to perform basic work activities without significant limitation, disability will not be found. 20 CFR 416.994(b)(1)(iv)

In general, the individual has the responsibility to prove disability. 20 CFR 416.912(a) An impairment or combination of impairments is not severe if it does not significantly limit an individual's physical or mental ability to do basic work activities. 20 CFR 416.921(a) An individual is not disabled regardless of the medical condition, age, education, and work experience, if the individual is working and the work is a substantial, gainful activity. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4)(i) Substantial gainful activity means work that involves doing significant and productive physical or mental duties and is done (or intended) for pay or profit. 20 CFR 416.910(a)(b) Substantial gainful activity is work activity that is both substantial and gainful. 20 CFR 416.972 Work may be substantial even if it is done on a part-time basis or if an individual does less, with less responsibility, and gets paid less than prior employment. 20 CFR 416.972(a) Gainful work activity is work activity that is done for pay or profit. 20 CFR 416.972(b)

In addition to the above, when evaluating mental impairments, a special technique is utilized. 20 CFR 416.920a(a) First, an individual's pertinent symptoms, signs, and laboratory findings are evaluated to determine whether a medically determinable mental impairment exists. 20 CFR 416.920a(b)(1) When a medically determinable mental impairment is established, the symptoms, signs and laboratory findings that substantiate the impairment are documented to include the individual's significant history, laboratory findings, and functional limitations. 20 CFR 416.920a(e)(2) Functional limitation(s) is assessed based upon the extent to which the impairment(s) interferes with an individual's ability to function independently, appropriately, effectively, and on a sustained basis. *Id.*; 20 CFR 416.920a(c)(2) Chronic mental disorders, structured settings, medication, and other treatment and the effect on the overall degree of functionality is considered. 20 CFR 416.920a(c)(1) In addition, four broad functional areas (activities of daily living; social functioning; concentration, persistence or pace; and episodes of decompensation) are considered when determining an individual's degree of functional limitation. 20 CFR 416.920a(c)(3) The degree of limitation for the first three functional areas is rated by a five point scale: none, mild, moderate, marked, and extreme. 20 CFR 416.920a(c)(4) A four point scale (none, one or two, three, four or more) is used to rate the degree of limitation in the fourth functional area. *Id.* The last point on each scale represents a degree of limitation that is incompatible with the ability to do any gainful activity. *Id.*

After the degree of functional limitation is determined, the severity of the mental impairment is determined. 20 CFR 416.920a(d) If severe, a determination of whether the impairment meets or is the equivalent of a listed mental disorder is made. 20 CFR 416.920a(d)(2) If the severe mental impairment does not meet (or equal) a listed

impairment, an individual's residual functional capacity is assessed. 20 CFR 416.920a(d)(3)

As outlined above, the first step looks at the individual's current work activity. In the record presented, the Claimant is not involved in substantial gainful activity; therefore, is not ineligible for disability benefits under Step 1.

The severity of the Claimant's alleged impairment(s) is considered under Step 2. The Claimant bears the burden to present sufficient objective medical evidence to substantiate the alleged disabling impairments. In order to be considered disabled for MA purposes, the impairment must be severe. 20 CFR 916.920(a)(4)(ii); 20 CFR 916.920(b) An impairment, or combination of impairments, is severe if it significantly limits an individual's physical or mental ability to do basic work activities regardless of age, education and work experience. 20 CFR 916.920(a)(4)(ii); 20 CFR 916.920(c) Basic work activities means the abilities and aptitudes necessary to do most jobs. 20 CFR 916.921(b) Examples include:

1. Physical functions such as walking, standing, sitting, lifting, pushing, pulling, reaching, carrying, or handling;
2. Capacities for seeing, hearing, and speaking;
3. Understanding, carrying out, and remembering simple instructions;
4. Use of judgment;
5. Responding appropriately to supervision, co-workers and usual work situations; and
6. Dealing with changes in a routine work setting.

*Id.* The second step allows for dismissal of a disability claim obviously lacking in medical merit. *Higgs v Bowen*, 880 F2d 860, 862 (CA 6, 1988). The severity requirement may still be employed as an administrative convenience to screen out claims that are totally groundless solely from a medical standpoint. *Id.* at 863 citing *Farris v Sec of Health and Human Services*, 773 F2d 85, 90 n.1 (CA 6, 1985) An impairment qualifies as non-severe only if, regardless of a Claimant's age, education, or work experience, the impairment would not affect the Claimant's ability to work. *Salmi v Sec of Health and Human Services*, 774 F2d 685, 692 (CA 6, 1985)

In the present case the Claimant has alleged physical disabling impairments due to polyarthritis, osteoarthritis, and rheumatoid arthritis and generalized joint pain. A summary of the medical evidence presented follows.

An evaluation of by the Claimant's then treating therapist was conducted on [REDACTED]. The diagnosis was major Depressive Disorder, recurrent, severe without psychotic features, generalized anxiety disorder the GAF score was 40-45.

A Consultative Psychiatric Examination was conducted on [REDACTED]. The examiner noted that the Claimant is no longer on Zoloft and that Claimant stopped her treatment in [REDACTED]. The examiner assessed the Claimant as having good contact with reality and insight fair with decreased motivation with low self-esteem. The Claimant said she has been hearing voices and that others are following her. She was oriented to time, place and person. The diagnoses were major depressive disorder recurrent partially treated, generalized anxiety disorder chronic; the GAF score was 60 and prognosis was fair. The report noted that Claimant was unable to maintain her own funds.

As part of the above consultative examination a mental residual functional capacity exam was also performed and the Claimant was found moderately limited in 11 of the categories and not significantly limited in 9 categories.

A medical examination report completed by the Claimant's treating doctor on [REDACTED] notes that the Claimant has been seen in treatment since [REDACTED]. The diagnosis is polyarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis with joint pain since [REDACTED]. The exam noted general fatigue and observation of multiple joint pains and swelling. The examiner placed the Claimant at less than sedentary, imposing limitations of no lifting, and no use of extremities (hands, or feet) and Claimant could only stand or sit less than 2 hours in an 8 hour work day. The examiner noted that the Claimant needs assistance with household chores.

The Claimant was seen by the same treating doctor on [REDACTED] and pursuant to blood work testing for rheumatoid profile reveals elevated blood tests for rheumatoid profile, the ANA antinuclear AB was positive, ANA titer is .320 significant for rheumatoid arthritis. Based on this testing the Claimant was started on prednisone.

A consultative internal medicine examination conducted [REDACTED] concluded that fine and gross dexterity appeared to be intact. The patient has good hand grip bilaterally. The joints of the hands were not swollen. No arthritis. No atrophy or sensory changes noted. Osteoarthritis and rheumatoid affection of the other joints. Patient has normal gait and stance. Grip and all other joints were without any effusion, redness or heat. Possibly trochanteric bursitis in the right hip but the hands, wrist elbows, shoulders, knees and ankles were satisfactory without any effusion. Straight leg raising was limited to about 60 degrees.

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A [REDACTED] consultative exam was conducted which did not mention arthritis in the medical history and noted depression and anxiety. The examiner found she should be able to work so far as her physical condition is concerned. This examination predates the diagnosis with testing of polyarthritis.

The Claimant also alleges mental disabling impairments due to major depression and anxiety which began in her time in college.

The Claimant was seen by a supervised student intern therapist with a masters degree. At that time the Claimant treated for approximately 3 months on a weekly basis. The GAF was 40 to 45 and the diagnosis was major depressive disorder, recurrent severe without psychotic features. And generalized anxiety disorder. The Claimant was given a GAF of 45 and her prognosis was guarded.

A psychiatric examination and Mental Residual Functional Capacity Examination was conducted on [REDACTED] by a psychiatrist who had seen Claimant previously, but it is unclear from the records whether this doctor was a treating psychiatrist. The Claimant was evaluated as having no evidence of limitation in most categories.

As previously noted, the Claimant bears the burden to present sufficient objective medical evidence to substantiate the alleged disabling impairment(s). As summarized above, the Claimant has presented some objective medical evidence establishing that she does have some physical and mental limitations on her ability to perform basic work activities. Accordingly, the Claimant has an impairment, or combination thereof, that has more than a *de minimis* effect on the Claimant's basic work activities. Further, the impairments have lasted continuously for twelve months, therefore, the Claimant is not disqualified from receipt of MA-P benefits under Step 2.

In the third step of the sequential analysis of a disability claim, the trier of fact must determine if the Claimant's impairment, or combination of impairments, is listed in Appendix 1 of Subpart P of 20 C.F.R., Part 404. The Claimant asserts mental disabling impairments due to Major Depressive Disorder recurrent, and physical disabling impairments due to chronic low back pain with radiculitis and asthma.

Listing 12.04 (A), (B) Mental Affective Disorders and 12.06 Anxiety Related Disorders were considered and it was determined based upon the objective medical evidence that the Claimant did not meet either of these listings. Likewise Listing 14.09 Inflammatory Arthritis was considered and based upon the objective medical evidence the Claimant's condition did not meet the listing as the medical records did not demonstrate persistent inflammation or deformity.

The fourth step in analyzing a disability claim requires an assessment of the Claimant's 416.920(a)(4)(iv). An individual is not disabled if he/she can perform past relevant work.

*Id.*; 20 CFR 416.960(b)(3). Past relevant work is work that has been performed within the past 15 years that was a substantial gainful activity and that lasted long enough for the individual to learn the position. 20 CFR 416.960(b)(1). Vocational factors of age, education, and work experience, and whether the past relevant employment exists in significant numbers in the national economy are not considered. 20 CFR 416.960(b)(3). RFC is assessed based on impairment(s) and any related symptoms, such as pain, which may cause physical and mental limitations that affect what can be done in a work setting. RFC is the most that can be done, despite the limitations.

To determine the physical demands (exertional requirements) of work in the national economy, jobs are classified as sedentary, light, medium, heavy, and very heavy. 20 CFR 416.967.

Sedentary work involves lifting of no more than 10 pounds at a time and occasionally lifting or carrying articles like docket files, ledgers, and small tools. 20 CFR 416.967(a). Although a sedentary job is defined as one which involves sitting, a certain amount of walking and standing is often necessary in carrying out job duties. *Id.* Jobs are sedentary if walking and standing are required occasionally and other sedentary criteria are met.

Light work involves lifting no more than 20 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying objects weighing up to 10 pounds. 20 CFR 416.967(b). Even though weight lifted may be very little, a job is in this category when it requires a good deal of walking or standing, or when it involves sitting most of the time with some pushing and pulling of arm or leg controls. *Id.* To be considered capable of performing a full or wide range of light work, an individual must have the ability to do substantially all of these activities. *Id.* An individual capable of light work is also capable of sedentary work, unless there are additional limiting factors such as loss of fine dexterity or inability to sit for long periods of time. *Id.*

Medium work involves lifting no more than 50 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing up to 25 pounds. 20 CFR 416.967(c). An individual capable of performing medium work is also capable of light and sedentary work. *Id.* Heavy work involves lifting no more than 100 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing up to 50 pounds. 20 CFR 416.967(d). An individual capable of heavy work is also capable of medium, light, and sedentary work. *Id.*

Finally, very heavy work involves lifting objects weighing more than 100 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying objects weighing 50 pounds or more. 20 CFR 416.967(e). An individual capable of very heavy work is able to perform work under all categories. *Id.*

Limitations or restrictions which affect the ability to meet the demands of jobs other than strength demands (exertional requirements, e.g., sitting, standing, walking, lifting, carrying, pushing, or pulling) are considered nonexertional. 20 CFR 416.969a(a). In considering whether an individual can perform past relevant work, a comparison of the individual's residual functional capacity to the demands of past relevant work must be made. *Id.* If an individual can no longer do past relevant work, the same residual functional capacity assessment along with an individual's age, education, and work experience is considered to determine whether an individual can adjust to other work which exists in the national economy. *Id.* Examples of non-exertional limitations or restrictions include difficulty function due to nervousness, anxiousness, or depression; difficulty maintaining attention or concentration; difficulty understanding or remembering detailed instructions; difficulty in seeing or hearing; difficulty tolerating some physical feature(s) of certain work settings (e.g., can't tolerate dust or fumes); or difficulty performing the manipulative or postural functions of some work such as reaching, handling, stooping, climbing, crawling, or crouching. 20 CFR 416.969a(c)(1)(i) – (vi). If the impairment(s) and related symptoms, such as pain, only affect the ability to perform the non-exertional aspects of work-related activities, the rules in Appendix 2 do not direct factual conclusions of disabled or not disabled. 20 CFR 416.969a(c)(2). The determination of whether disability exists is based upon the principles in the appropriate sections of the regulations, giving consideration to the rules for specific case situations in Appendix 2. *Id.*

The Claimant's prior work history consists of employment as a customer service representative, receptionist and switch board operator and clerical work. In light of the Claimant's testimony and records, and in consideration of the Occupational Code, the Claimant's prior work is classified as unskilled, light work.

The Claimant credibly testified that she is was unable to keep up with the pace in her customer service job and was let go. The job involved phone work and she was not able to do the work fast enough. The job did involve Claimant sitting most of the day. The Claimant indicated that she could not drive due to her physical pains in her joints. She seldom leaves the house and only has contact with her sister and mother whom she lives with. The Claimant testified that she is not able to walk any significant distance (1/2 to one block) due to joint pain. The Claimant also testified that she could not stand more than 15 minutes without getting tired or sit for more than 20 minutes. Claimant could tie her shoes and could touch her toes and could only perform a squat with pain. The Claimant does take prednisone and Ibuprofen 800 mg for her arthritis and has a persistent pain level with medication of between 6-5 out of 10.

The objective medical evidence consisting of evaluations by Claimant's treating primary care physician indicate the Claimant's restrictions and limitations do significantly limit the Claimant. Further, Claimant's treating physician's most recent evaluation on [REDACTED] significantly limited the Claimant's physical activity. The Claimant first saw her

treating doctor [REDACTED] and sees him every 3 weeks. After numerous visits and at least 2 years of treatment, her treating doctor concluded that the clinical impression was that the Claimant was limited as follows. Claimant could lift less than 10 pounds never. The Claimant could stand and or walk less than 2 hours in an 8 hour work day. The report noted that the Claimant could not use her hands or arms for simple grasping, reaching pushing, pulling or fine manipulation and could not operate foot controls with either foot. The report concluded that the Claimant could not meet her needs in the home and noted that Claimant's sister helps her with personal needs and chores.

If the impairment or combination of impairments does not limit physical or mental ability to do basic work activities, it is not a severe impairment(s) and disability does not exist. 20 CFR 416.920. In consideration of the Claimant's testimony, medical records, and current limitations, it is found that the Claimant is not able to return to past relevant work; thus, the fifth step in the sequential analysis is required.

In Step 5, an assessment of the individual's residual functional capacity and age, education, and work experience is considered to determine whether an adjustment to other work can be made. 20 CFR 416.920(4)(v). The Claimant is 51 years old and, thus, is considered to be an individual closely approaching advanced age for MA purposes. The Claimant is a high school graduate. Disability is found if an individual is unable to adjust to other work. *Id.* At this point in the analysis, the burden shifts from the Claimant to the Department to present proof that the Claimant has the residual capacity to substantial gainful employment. 20 CFR 416.960(2); *Richardson v Sec of Health and Human Services*, 735 F2d 962, 964 (CA 6, 1984). While a vocational expert is not required, a finding supported by substantial evidence that the individual has the vocational qualifications to perform specific jobs is needed to meet the burden. *O'Banner v Sec of Health and Human Services*, 587 F2d 321, 323 (CA 6, 1978). Medical-Vocational guidelines found at 20 CFR Subpart P, Appendix II, may be used to satisfy the burden of proving that the individual can perform specific jobs in the national economy. *Heckler v Campbell*, 461 US 458, 467 (1983); *Kirk v Secretary*, 667 F2d 524, 529 (CA 6, 1981) *cert den* 461 US 957 (1983).

In this case the evidence reveals that the Claimant's medical conditions resulting from her poly arthritis which includes rheumatoid and osteoarthritis and her lifelong depression significantly limit her physical and emotional functioning. The evaluations of the treating physician under 20 CFR § 404.1527(d)(2), provides that the medical conclusion of a "treating" physician is "controlling" if it is well-supported by medically acceptable clinical and laboratory diagnostic techniques and is not inconsistent with the other substantial evidence in the case record. In this case although the consultative physical exam found little, if any, limitation the exam was not based upon testing information which was obtained by the treating physician indicating a confirming diagnosis of rheumatoid arthritis. Deference was given to the tests and observations of the Claimant's treating physician.

In this case the evidence and objective findings reveal that the Claimant suffers from physical disabling impairments due to polyarthritis and mental impairments diagnosed as major depression.

The objective medical evidence provided by the Claimant's treating primary care physician place the Claimant at the less than sedentary activity level. The total impact caused by the physical impairment suffered by the Claimant and lifelong depression must be considered. In doing so, it is found that the combination of the Claimant's physical impairments and mental impairment have a major impact on her ability to perform basic work activities. Accordingly, it is found that the Claimant is unable to perform the full range of activities for even sedentary work as defined in 20 CFR R 416.967(a). After review of the entire record, and in consideration of the Claimant's age, education, work experience and residual functional capacity it is found that the Claimant is disabled for purposes of the MA-P program at Step 5 with no further analysis required.

The State Disability Assistance program, which provides financial assistance for disabled persons, was established by 2004 PA 344. The Department administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10 *et seq.* and Mich Admin Code, Rules 400.3151 – 400.3180. Department policies are found in BAM, BEM, and RFT. A person is considered disabled for SDA purposes if the person has a physical or mental impairment which meets federal SSI disability standards for at least ninety days. Receipt of SSI benefits based on disability or blindness, or the receipt of MA benefits based on disability or blindness automatically qualifies an individual as disabled for purposes of the SDA program.

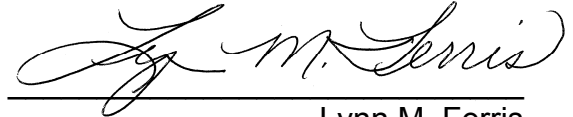
In this case, the Claimant is found disabled for purposes of the MA-P program; therefore, she is found disabled for purposes of SDA benefit program.

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above findings of fact and conclusions of law finds the Claimant disabled for purposes of the MA-P and SDA benefit programs.

Accordingly, It is ORDERED:

1. The Department's determination is REVERSED.
2. The Department shall initiate processing of the October 4, 2011 application and any retro months to determine if all other non-medical criteria are met and inform the Claimant of the determination in accordance with Department policy.

3. The Department shall supplement for any lost benefits (if any) that the Claimant was entitled to receive in accordance with the October 4, 2011 application and any retroactive period, if otherwise eligible and qualified in accordance with Department policy.
4. The Department shall review the Claimant's continued eligibility in February 2014 in accordance with Department policy.



Lynn M. Ferris  
Administrative Law Judge  
For Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: February 25, 2013

Date Mailed: February 25, 2013

**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.

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Request must be submitted through the local DHS office or directly to MAHS by mail to:

Michigan Administrative hearings  
Re consideration/Rehearing Request  
P. O. Box 30639  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-07322

LMF/cl

cc:

