

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 201249098
Issue No.: 3000
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: May 29, 2012
County: Wayne DHS (43)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Christian Gardocki

SETTLEMENT ORDER

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 May 29, 2012, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants included the above named claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED], Manager.

ISSUE

The issue is whether DHS properly terminated Claimant's eligibility for Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits effective 4/2012 due to an alleged failure by Claimant to timely verify information.

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 4/11/12, the Department:

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

under the following program(s):

- FIP FAP MA AMP SDA CDC SER.

2. On 4/11/12, the Department sent notice to Claimant (or Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative) of the:

- denial
- closure
- reduction.

3. On 4/23/12, Claimant filed a request for hearing concerning the Department's action.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

The Food Assistance Program (formerly known as the Food Stamp 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). DHS administers the FAP pursuant to Michigan Compiled Laws 400.10, *et seq.*, and Michigan Administrative Code R 400.3001-3015. DHS regulations are found in the Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), the Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) and the Reference Tables Manual (RFT). Updates to DHS regulations are found in the Bridges Policy Bulletin (BPB).

The law provides that disposition may be made of a contested case by stipulation or agreed settlement. MCL 24.278(2). In the present case, Claimant requested a hearing to dispute a FAP benefit termination effective 4/2012. DHS initially contended that Claimant untimely submitted verifications. DHS conceded that Claimant submitted verifications in sufficient time for DHS to redetermine Claimant's FAP benefit eligibility effective 4/2012. Consequently, the Department proposed to reinstate Claimant's FAP benefit eligibility effective 4/2012 and to process Claimant's benefit eligibility based on already submitted documentation. Claimant accepted the DHS proposal. As the agreement appears to comply with DHS regulations, the settlement among the parties shall be accepted.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department and Claimant have come to a settlement regarding Claimant's request for a hearing.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO DO THE FOLLOWING:

1. reinstate Claimant's FAP benefit eligibility effective 4/2012;
2. process Claimant's ongoing FAP benefit eligibility based on documents already submitted by Claimant; and

3. upon processing, supplement Claimant for any FAP benefits not received.



Christian Gardocki
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: June 7, 2012

Date Mailed: June 7, 2012

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).

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 to:

Michigan Administrative Hearings
Reconsideration/Rehearing Request
P. O. Box 30639
Lansing, Michigan 48909-07322

CG / hw

cc: 