

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No: 201263731  
Issue No: 5026  
Case No: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: October 10, 2012  
Kalamazoo County DHS

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Kevin Scully

**HEARING DECISION**

This matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge by authority of MCL 400.9 and MCL 400.37. Claimant's request for a hearing was received on July 2, 2012. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on October 10, 2012.

**ISSUE**

Whether the Department of Human Services (Department) properly determined the Claimant's State Emergency Relief (SER) eligibility?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. The Claimant applied for State Emergency Relief (SER) benefits on June 11, 2012.
2. On June 22, 2012, the Department notified the Claimant that it had denied her application because her [REDACTED] was not registered with the Department to receive payments.
3. The Department received the Claimant's request for a hearing on July 2, 2012, protesting the denial of her State Emergency Relief (SER) application.

**CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

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 final administrative rules filed with the Secretary of State on October 28, 1993. MAC R 400.7001-400.7049.

Family Independence Agency (FIA or agency) policies are found in the State Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

State Emergency Relief (SER) assists individuals and families to resolve or prevent homelessness by providing money for rent, security deposits, and moving expenses. The Department may authorize benefits for:

- First month's rent.
- Rent arrearage.
- Mobile home lot rent for owners or purchasers.
- Mobile home lot rent for renters.
- Security deposit.
- Moving expenses. Department of Human Services Bridges Emergency Relief Manual (BEM) 303 (June 1, 2010), p 1.

All State Emergency Relief (SER) service providers must be enrolled in Bridges before payment can be issued. Department of Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM) 401 (April 1, 2012), p 2.

In this case, the Claimant applied for State Emergency Relief (SER) benefits on June 11, 2012, requesting assistance with rent and a security deposit. On June 22, 2012, the Department notified the Claimant that it had denied her application because her [REDACTED] was not registered with the Department to receive payments.

The Department requires all State Emergency Relief (SER) service providers to be enrolled in its payment system before payment can be issued. Since the landlord to receive the State Emergency Relief (SER) payment was not registered as a service provider, the Department was acting in accordance with its policies when it denied the Claimant's application for benefits.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above findings of fact and conclusions of law, decides that the Department acted in accordance with policy in determining the Claimant's State Emergency Relief (SER) eligibility.

The Department's State Emergency Relief (SER) eligibility determination is AFFIRMED. It is SO ORDERED.

/s/  
Kevin Scully  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura D. Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: October 16, 2012

Date Mailed: October 16, 2012

**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 date of the rehearing decision.

KS/tb

cc:

