

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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2012-70665
Issue No.: 5016
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: March 14, 2013
County: Wayne (76)

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Jan Leventer

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 March 14, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED] Eligibility Specialist.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's request for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance with energy or utility service(s)?

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 August 7, 2012, Claimant applied for SER assistance with energy or utility service.
2. On August 8, 2012, the Department sent notice of the application denial to Claimant.
3. On August 10, 2012, the Department received Claimant's hearing request, protesting the SER denial.

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 1999 AC, Rule 400.7001 through Rule 400.7049. Department policies are found in the State Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

Additionally, ERM 301, "Energy Services," sets payment limits for the maximum money amounts a customer can receive for energy assistance. Department of Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM) 301 (2012). These amounts are \$450 for natural gas and \$450 for residential electric services. *Id.*, p. 10.

In this case Claimant received these two amounts in fiscal year 2012. *Id.*, p. 9. According to the DTE Energy Payment History, the Department paid \$900 in a series of three payments on December 23, 2011 and April 2, 2012. *Id.* It is accordingly found and determined that Claimant's hearing request must be denied, and the Department is affirmed.

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 improperly denied
Claimant's SER application for assistance with energy and utility services.

DECISION AND ORDER

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for reasons stated on the record, finds that the Department
 did act properly. did not act properly.



Jan Leventer
Administrative Law Judge
for Maura Corrigan, Director
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: March 18, 2013

Date Mailed: March 18, 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.

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

JL/tm

cc:

