

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 20132106  
Issue No.: 3022, 2018  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: March 27, 2013  
County: Oakland (#02)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: MICHELLE HOWIE**

**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 conducted from Detroit, Michigan on Wednesday March 27, 2013. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED] as a witness. Participant on behalf of Department of Human Services (Department) was [REDACTED] (Eligibility Specialist).

**ISSUE**

Whether the Department properly terminated FAP and MA benefits effective March 1, 2013 for failure to comply with the verification requirements?

**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 was an ongoing FAP and MA recipient.
2. On November 13, 2013 the Department sent the Claimant a redetermination packet; and on December 10, 2012, the Claimant submitted the redetermination packet to the Department.
3. Based on the information provided in the redetermination packet, the Department sent a verification checklist to the Claimant on January 8, 2013 requesting that verification of rental income, shelter expenses, assets

(checking/savings account) and wages for last 30 days be submitted by January 18, 2013.

4. The Claimant failed to submit the requested verifications, and on February 13, 2013, the Department pended the FAP & MA benefits to close effective March 1, 2013.
5. On February 25, 2013 the Department received Claimant's written hearing request.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

The Department of Human Services (DHS) 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 Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by the Title XIX of the Social Security Act and is implemented by Title 42 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10, *et seq.*, and MCL 400.105.

Claimants must cooperate with the local office in determining initial and ongoing eligibility to include the completion of the necessary forms. BAM 105 (November 2012), p. 5. The Department has the responsibility of telling the client what verification is required, how to obtain it, and the due date. BAM 130 (May 2012), p. 1. Verification means documentation or other evidence to establish the accuracy of the client's verbal or written statements. BAM 130, p. 1. Verification is usually required at application/redetermination and for a reported change affecting eligibility or benefit level. BAM 130, p. 1. The client must obtain any required verification, however, the Department must assist if needed and/or requested. BAM 130, p. 3. Clients are allowed 10 calendar days (or other time limit specified in policy) to provide the requested verification. BAM 130, p. 5. A negative action notice is sent when the client indicates a refusal to provide the verification or the time period provided has lapsed and the client has not made a reasonable effort to provide the verifications. BAM 130, p. 5. In FAP cases, a client will not be given an extension and their case will be denied once the verification checklist due date is passed. Eligibility will be determined based on their compliance date if they return required verifications. The application will be re-registered

if the client complies within 60 days of the application date and processed in accordance with policy. In MA cases if the client cannot provide the verification despite a reasonable effort an extension may be granted up to three times.

In this case, the Claimant acknowledged timely receipt of the verification checklist. He understood what was requested, and the return date. He testified that he did not provide the requested verifications by the due date because of issues with proper time management. Verification of assets and income is required in determining FAP and MA eligibility. While the Claimant indicated that he submitted verifications subsequent to the case action in this matter, the Department will process the case in accordance with policy.

Accordingly, the Department established it acted in accordance with Department policy when it closed Claimant's MA and FAP case at redetermination based on the Claimant's failure to provide timely verification necessary to determine eligibility.

### **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 acted in accordance with policy when it closed Claimant's FAP and MA benefits effective March 1, 2013.

Accordingly, the Department's  FAP  MA determination is hereby, AFFIRMED.



**MICHELLE HOWIE**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 3/29/2013

Date Mailed: 3/29/2013

**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.

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

MH/hw

cc:

