

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

████████████████████  
████████████████████  
████████████████████

Reg. No.: 2013-44206  
Issue No.: 5025  
Case No.: ██████████  
Hearing Date: June 27, 2013  
County: Wayne (19)

**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 June 27, 2013, from Detroit, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included ██████████, Eligibility Specialist.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's request for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance with property taxes?

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. On April 10, 2013, Claimant applied for SER assistance with property taxes.
2. On April 17, 2013, the Department sent notice of the application denial to Claimant.
3. On April 26, 2013, 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).

Emergency Relief Manual (ERM) 304, "Home Ownership," states the Department's policy and procedure for assisting people with property tax emergencies. ERM 304 states that assistance with property taxes is available only to the owner or purchaser of the home. Department of Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM) 304 (2012), p. 3.

In this case there is no evidence in the record to establish that Claimant is the owner or purchaser of the home. One of the tax delinquency documents is addressed to "Occupant," and the second document is addressed to Thelma Meekins. Neither document identifies Claimant as the owner or purchaser of the property. Dept. Exh. 1, pp. 5-6.

Having reviewed all of the evidence in this case in its entirety, it is found and determined that the Claimant failed to meet the requirements of Department policy ERM 234, in that she failed to establish that she was the owner or purchaser of the home on April 10, 2013, the date that she applied for SER. It is found and determined that the Department acted correctly in this case, and the action taken shall be affirmed.

Based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department  properly denied  improperly denied Claimant's SER application for assistance with property taxes.

### **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  did act properly.  did not act properly.

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED REVERSED for the reasons stated on the record.



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

Date Signed: July 3, 2013

Date Mailed: July 8, 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 affect the substantial rights of the claimant,
  - 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: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
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