

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

██████████  
██████████  
██████████

Reg. No.: 2013-69328  
Issue No.: 2001  
Case No.: ██████████  
Hearing Date: November 20, 2013  
County: Clinton

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Carmen G. Fahie

**HEARING DECISION**

Following Claimant's request for a hearing, this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9 and 400.37; 7 CFR 273.15 to 273.18; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250; 45 CFR 99.1 to 99.33; and 45 CFR 205.10. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant's daughter, and Power of Attorney (POA) ██████████. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Erin Bancroft, LW.

**ISSUE**

Due to excess assets, did the Department properly  
 deny Claimant's application  close Claimant's case for:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Independence Program (FIP)?  | <input type="checkbox"/> Adult Medical Assistance (AMP)?    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food Assistance Program (FAP)?      | <input type="checkbox"/> State Disability Assistance (SDA)? |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical Assistance (MA)? | <input type="checkbox"/> State Emergency Relief (SER)?      |

**FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

1. Claimant  applied for  received:  
 FIP  FAP  MA  AMP  SDA  SER  
benefits.
2. Due to excess assets, on August 28, 2013, the Department  
 denied Claimant's application.  closed Claimant's case.

3. On August 28, 2013, the Department sent Claimant/Claimant's Authorized Representative (AR) its decision.
4. On September 3, 2013, Claimant/Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative (AHR) filed a hearing request, protesting the Department's actions.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Department policies are found in the Department of Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), Department of Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and Department of Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, PL 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FIP pursuant to MCL 400.10 and 400.57a and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101 to .3131.

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food Stamp Act of 1977, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 271.1 to 285.5. The Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 to .3015.

The Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by the Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396-1396w-5, and is implemented by 42 CFR 400.200 to 1008.59. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the MA program pursuant to MCL 400.10 and MCL 400.105.

The Adult Medical Program (AMP) is established by 42 USC 1315 and is administered by the Department pursuant to MCL 400.10.

The State Disability Assistance (SDA) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The Department of Human Services (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) administers the SDA program pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3151-.3180.

The State Emergency Relief (SER) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The SER program is administered by the Department (formerly known as the Family Independence Agency) pursuant to MCL 400.10 and by Mich Admin Code, R 400.7001 through R 400.7049.

Additionally, the Claimant's POA and daughter applied on behalf of the Claimant on August 27, 2013 for MA. Department Exhibit 1-6. The Claimant was denied for June

2013 and July 2013 due to excess assets on August 28, 2013. Department Exhibit 25-28. For June 2013, the Claimant had excess assets of [REDACTED] which resulted in her failing the MA asset test of \$2,000. Department Exhibit 7, 13-15. For July 2013, the Claimant had excess assets of [REDACTED], which resulted in her failing the MA asset test of \$2,000. Department Exhibit 16, 22-24. BEM 163, 164, 400, and 500. BAM 105, 110, 115, 130, 220, and 600.

During the hearing, the Claimant's daughter and POA stated that even though the money was in the Claimant's account that the money was not for the Claimant's use. The Claimant sold her house under land contract with those funds being used to pay the property taxes on the house. The Claimant's Buyer was paying extra to pay for the property taxes. Claimant Exhibit a The Claimant was suppose to set up an escrow account for the funds received from the Buyer, but did not. Instead, the funds were put in the Claimant's personal account.

This Administrative Law Judge finds that the Department properly determined that the Claimant had excess assets for MA. The money for the Buyer's property taxes was in the Claimant's account and she had access to the funds. Until the funds were put in a proper escrow account, the Claimant had access to funds, which resulted in her having excess assets for MA.

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, if any, finds that the Department

acted in accordance with Department policy when it denied the Claimant's MA application for June 2013 and July 2013 because of excess assets.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is

**AFFIRMED.**



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**Carmen G. Fahie**  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: 12/05/2013

Date Mailed: 12/05/2013

**NOTICE OF APPEAL:** 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 or Reconsideration was

made, within 30 days of the receipt date of the Decision and Order of Reconsideration or Rehearing Decision.

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).

A Request for Rehearing or Reconsideration may be granted when one of the following exists:

- Newly discovered evidence that existed at the time of the original hearing that could affect the outcome of the original hearing decision;
- Misapplication of manual policy or law in the hearing decision which led to a wrong conclusion;
- Typographical, mathematical or other obvious error in the hearing decision that affects the rights of the client;
- Failure of the ALJ to address in the hearing decision relevant issues raised in the hearing request.

The Department, AHR or the claimant must specify all reasons for the request. MAHS will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration. A request must be *received* in MAHS within 30 days of the date the hearing decision is mailed.

The written request must be faxed to (517) 335-6088 and be labeled as follows:

Attention: MAHS Rehearing/Reconsideration Request

If submitted by mail, the written request must be addressed as follows:

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

CGF/pw

cc: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]