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

#### IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 2014-22898

Issue No(s).: 3002

Case No.: Hearing Date:

February 12, 2014

County: Gladwin

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Michael S. Newell

#### **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 February 12, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Eligibility Specialist

## **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly terminate FAP benefits for failure to verify?

### FINDINGS OF FACT

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

- 1. On December 5, 2013, Claimant applied for FAP benefits.
- 2. Claimant qualified for expedited benefits pending verification.
- On December 12, 2013, the Department sent Claimant a Verification Checklist (VC) requiring Claimant to send the Department cert ain documents, including self-employment records.
- 4. Claimant received the VC but did not timely comply with the request because his mail was misplaced within his home.
- 5. On December 27, 2013, the Department sent Claimant a Notice of Case Action, terminated the groups FAP benefits effective January 1, 2014.
- 6. On January 9, 2014, Claimant s ent the Department a DHS 0431 Self Employment record form.

- 7. On January 13, 2014, Claimant requested hearing.
- 8. The hearing request indicated that Claimant requested a hearing regarding FAP and "cash assistance."
- 9. As of the date of Claimant's hearing request, Claimant had not applied for cash assistance.

## **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Department policies are contained in the Department of Human Service s Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM), Department of Human Services Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM), D epartment of Human Service es Reference Tables Manual (RFT), and Department of Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

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. It 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.

Additionally, because Claimant did not ti mely comply with the VC, contact the Department about the VC, make reasonable effor its to comply with the VC, BAM 130 required the Department to take the negative action that it took when Claimant did not timely comply. The Department acted in accordance with policy in terminating Claimant's FAP benefits.

The Administrative Law Judge, based on 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.

# DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

Michael S. Newell

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

Michael &. Newell

Date Signed: February 21, 2014

Date Mailed: February 21, 2014

**NOTICE OF AP PEAL**: The claimant may appeal the Dec ision and Order to Circu it Court within 30 days of the receipt of the Decision and Order or, i f 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 Syst em (MAHS) may order a rehearing or reconsideration on either its own motion or at the request of a par ty within 30 days of the mailing date of this Dec ision and Order. MAHS will not order a rehearing or reconsideration on the Department's mo tion where the final decis ion 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 disc overed evidence that existed at the time of the or iginal 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 clai mant must specify all reas ons 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

#### MSN/las

cc: