

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

IN THE MATTER OF:

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2014-24177
Issue No(s): 5007
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: March 5, 2014
County: Kent

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Susanne E Harris

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 5, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Assistance Payments Supervisor, [REDACTED] and Assistance Payments Worker, [REDACTED].

ISSUE

Did the Department properly process Claimant's request for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance with shelter emergency?

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 December 2, 2013, Claimant applied for SER assistance with shelter emergency.
2. On December 4, 2013, the Department sent Claimant an SER Decision Notice.
3. On January 21, 2014, Claimant filed a hearing request, protesting the Department's SER decision.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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. Department policies are found in the Department of Human Services State Emergency Relief Manual (ERM).

Additionally, Emergency Relief Manual (ERM) 303 pp. 1-3, defines and discusses homelessness. It provides that a person who is staying temporarily with family and friends, to be eligible for SER benefits, must also meet the eligibility requirements for one of the following homeless assistance programs:

- Homeless Assistance Recovery Program (HARP).
- Transitional Support Housing Leasing Assistance Program (TSHLAP).
- Transitional in Place Leasing Assistance Program (TIPLAP).
- Rapid Re-housing Leasing Assistance.
- Temporary Basic Rental Assistance (PBRA) funded by MSHDA.

ERM 303 p. 3, provides that a group living with friends or relatives is not homeless unless that group meets the eligibility criteria for one of the homeless assistance programs listed above. ERM 303 p. 6, provides that verification of such eligibility criteria be provided in the form of a signed and dated statement on official letterhead of the agency or service provider, which identifies the persons and the homeless assistance program they are eligible for. In this case, there was no evidence establishing that the Claimant meets the eligibility requirements for one of the homeless assistance programs listed above. As such, the Administrative Law Judge concludes that the Department was acting in accordance with its policy when taking action to deny the Claimant's application for SER.

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 when it issued its SER Decision Notice.

DECISION AND ORDER

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



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

Date Signed: 3/10/14

Date Mailed: 3/10/14

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

SEH/tb

cc:

