

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

IN THE MATTER OF:



Reg. No.: 201431632
Issue No(s): 5001
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Hearing Date: April 9, 2014
County: Ingham County DHS

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Kevin Scully

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 April 9, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED] and [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 February 25, 2014, Claimant applied for SER assistance with shelter emergency.
2. On February 28, 2014, the Department sent Claimant an SER Decision Notice.
3. On March 5, 2014, Claimant/Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative (AHR) 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).

State Emergency Relief (SER) benefits are determined based on a budget computation period of 30 days, which is referred to as the countable income period. The first day of the countable income period is the date the local office receives a signed application for State Emergency Relief (SER) benefits. Department of Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM) 206 (October 1, 2013), p 1. The Department will multiply the State Emergency Relief (SER) applicant's total net countable income by 75 percent. The result is the maximum total housing obligation the group can have based on their income, and be eligible for SER housing services. Department of Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM) 207 (October 1, 2013), p 1.

In this case, the Claimant reported to the Department a total net income of \$ [REDACTED] during the countable income period. The Claimant reported a monthly shelter expense of \$ [REDACTED] and requested \$ [REDACTED] to avoid eviction.

Based on the income the Claimant reported during the countable income period, the Department has established that it properly denied the Claimant's State Emergency Relief (SER) application.

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
- did not act in accordance with Department policy
- failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy

when it issued its SER Decision Notice.

DECISION AND ORDER

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



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

Date Signed: April 18, 2014

Date Mailed: April 18, 2014

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

KS/hj

cc:

