

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 14-002944  
Issue No.: 3002  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: June 18, 2014  
County: SSPC-WEST

**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 June 18, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included Claimant. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's FAP application?

**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 March 24, 2014, Claimant applied for FAP.
2. On March 31, 2014, the Department sent a Verification Checklist (VCL) to Claimant with verifications due April 10, 2014.
3. Claimant was approved for expedited FAP on March 31, 2014.
4. Claimant did not timely provide income verifications.
5. Claimant did not timely contact the Department to determine what the Department needed.
6. Claimant first attempted to call the Department after the due date of the verification.
7. On April 23, 2014, the Department notified Claimant that his benefits would be cancelled effective May 1, 2014.

8. On May 9, 2014, Claimant requested a hearing.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

Department policies are contained 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 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.

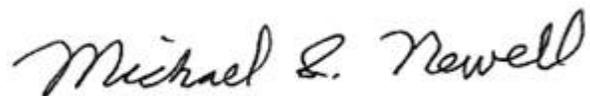
Additionally, Claimant did not timely comply with the verification checklist, so the Department acted in accordance with policy in closing the case. BAM 130.

Claimant alleged that he made numerous attempts to call his worker. Claimant was unsure of when he made these calls. Because the attempts to contact the worker were admittedly after the VCL due date and apparently after the Department had closed his case, these calls do not address whether Claimant complied with the Verification Checklist, which he did not, or whether the Department followed policy, which it did. The Verification Checklist made clear that verification was needed or Claimant's benefits may be closed (Exhibit 4), and Claimant did not read the document or make reasonable attempts to determine what was needed before the due date.

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 terminated Claimant's benefits.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

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



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Michael S. Newell  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Maura Corrigan, Director  
Department of Human Services

Date Signed: **6/25/2014**

Date Mailed: **6/25/2014**

MSN/las

**NOTICE OF APPEAL:** A party may appeal this Hearing Decision in the circuit court in the county in which he/she resides, or the circuit court in Ingham County, within 30 days of the receipt date.

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Hearing Decision from the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS) within 30 days of the mailing date of this Hearing Decision, or MAHS may order a rehearing or reconsideration on its own motion.

MAHS may grant a party's Request for Rehearing or Reconsideration 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 party requesting a rehearing or reconsideration 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 this Hearing Decision is mailed.

A written request may be faxed or mailed to MAHS. If submitted by fax, 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

cc:

