

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

[REDACTED]

Reg. No.: 2014-30499  
Issue No.: 5001  
Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: April 16, 2014  
County: Oakland(2)

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

**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, telephone hearing was held on Wednesday, April 16, 2014, from Lansing, Michigan. Participants on behalf of Claimant included the Claimant and her [REDACTED] and Authorized Representative, [REDACTED]. Participants on behalf of the Department of Human Services (Department) included Imogene [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly process Claimant's request for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance with utility/energy services?

**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 4, 2014, Claimant applied for SER assistance with [REDACTED] gy services.
2. On February 13, 2014, the Department sent Claimant the SER Decision Notice.
3. On February 24, 2014, Claimant/Claimant's Authorized Hearing Representative (AHR) filed a hearing request stating that the Department did not follow the Administrative Hearing decision to reinstate SER benefits.

**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, the Claimant applied for SER for benefits for assistance with utility bills on February 4, 2014. On December 17, 2012, the BRIDGES system noted that the Claimant was in non-cooperation with the Office of Child Support (OCS). Department Exhibit 5. The Claimant was issued a denial notice based on her being in non-cooperation with the OCS on February 13, 2014. Department Exhibit 3-4. Subsequently, the OCS reported to DHS that they had no indication on the OCS system showing that the Claimant was in non-cooperation status. Therefore, a [REDACTED] [REDACTED] to correct the issue to remove the noncooperation status from BRIDGES. Until the ticket is fixed on the system, the Claimant will not be able to receive SER benefits. BEM 225. ERM 203.

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  did not act in accordance with Department policy when it issued a BRIDES ticket to fix the OCS non-cooperation issue to determine the Claimant's eligibility for SER.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's SER decision is  AFFIRMED.



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

Date Signed: 5/6/14

Date Mailed: 5/6/14

**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

CGF/tb

cc:

