

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

**IN THE MATTER OF:**



MAHS Reg. No.: 15-015183  
Issue No.: 5001  
Agency Case No.: [REDACTED]  
Hearing Date: October 21, 2015  
County: KALAMAZOO

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Gary Heisler

**HEARING DECISION**

Following Petitioner'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; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on October 21, 2015, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by [REDACTED]. The Department was represented by Hearing Facilitator [REDACTED].

**ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Claimant's State Emergency Relief (SER) application for burial 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 July 6, 2015, P. Price submitted an application for State Emergency Relief (SER) burial services on behalf of Claimant. An SER Verification Checklist (DHHS-3503-SER) was sent [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. The requested verifications were due on July 13, 2015.
2. On July 9, 2015, [REDACTED] faxed in the required verifications.
3. On July 15, 2015, the Department sent [REDACTED] a State Emergency Relief Decision Notice (DHS-1419) which stated the application was denied for failure to provide verification of the amount of Burial Services.
4. On August 13, 2015, [REDACTED] submitted a hearing request.

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

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

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 Department of Human Services) pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.7001-.7049.

During this hearing the Department representative testified that he had found the verifications [REDACTED] submitted on July 9, 2015 and that the denial was incorrect. A copy of the verifications was submitted by the Department following the hearing.

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 denied Claimant's State Emergency Relief (SER) application for burial services.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision **REVERSED**.


THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

1. Reregister the July 6, 2015 State Emergency Relief (SER) application and process in accordance with Department policy.

Date Signed: **10/26/2015**

Date Mailed: **10/26/2015**

GFH / [REDACTED]

  
Gary Heisler  
Administrative Law Judge  
for Nick Lyon, Director  
Department of Health and Human Services

**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 copy of the claim or application for appeal must be filed with the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Hearing Decision from 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 48909-8139

cc:

