RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM Christopher Seppanen Executive Director

SHELLY EDGERTON



ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Carmen G. Fahie

HEARING DECISION

Upon the request for a hearing by the Department of Health and Human Services (Department), this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9, and in accordance with Titles 7, 42 and 45 of the Code of Federal Regulation (CFR), particularly 7 CFR 273.16 and 45 CFR 235.110; and with Mich Admin Code, R 400.3130 and 400.3178. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on October 4, 2016, from Lansing, Michigan. The Department was represented by Recoupment Specialist,

Respondent did not appear. This matter having been initiated by the Department and due notice having been provided to Respondent, the hearing was held in Respondent's absence in accordance with Department of Health and Human Services Bridges Administrative Manual (BAM) 725.

<u>ISSUE</u>

Did Respondent receive an over-issuance (OI) of Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits due to Department error?

FINDINGS OF FACT

The Administrative Law Judge, based on the competent, material, and substantial evidence on the whole record, finds as material fact:

- 1. Respondent was a recipient of FAP benefits from the Department.
- 2. The Department alleges Respondent received a FAP OI during the period October 1, 2014 through May 31, 2015, due to **Department's** error.

- 3. The Department alleges that Respondent received OI that is still due and owing to the Department.
- 4. On May 25, 2016, the Department sent the Respondent a notice that she had received an overissuance of FAP benefits due to Department error.
- 5. On May 27, 2016, the Department received a hearing request from the Respondent, contesting the Department overissuance decision.

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), and Department of Health and Human Services Reference Tables Manual (RFT).

The Food Assistance Program (FAP) [formerly known as the Food Stamp program] is established by the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, as amended, 7 USC 2011 to 2036a and is implemented by the federal regulations contained in 7 CFR 273. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FAP pursuant to MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3001 to .3015.

Additionally, Respondent was a recipient of FAP benefits from the Department. The Department alleges Respondent received a FAP OI during the period October 1, 2014 through May 31, 2015, due to **Department's** error. The Department alleges that Respondent received OI that is still due and owing to the Department. On May 25, 2016, the Department sent the Respondent a notice that she had received an overissuance of FAP benefits due to Department error. On May 27, 2016, the Department received a hearing request from the Respondent, contesting the Department overissuance decision. BAM 705. BEM 501.

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, finds that the Department **did** establish a FAP benefit OI to Respondent totaling that the Department is required to recoup.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department is **AFFIRMED**.

The Department is ORDERED to initiate collection procedures for a \$1,049 FAP OI in accordance with Department policy.

Carmen G. Fahie

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

NOTICE OF APPEAL: A party may appeal this Order in circuit court within 30 days of the receipt date. A copy of the circuit court appeal must be filed with the Michigan Administrative Hearing System (MAHS).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Order if the request is received by MAHS within 30 days of the date the Order was issued. The party requesting a rehearing or reconsideration must provide the specific reasons for the request. MAHS will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration.

A written request may be mailed or faxed to MAHS. If submitted by fax, the written request must be faxed to (517) 335-6088; 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