RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

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

SHELLY EDGERTON



Date Mailed: October 14, 2016 MAHS Docket No.: 16-011653

Agency No.: Petitioner:

**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 September 15, 2016, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner and her spouse, appeared and testified. The Department was represented by Hearing Facilitator and Family Independence Specialist Testimony was received from all participants. Department's Exhibit A, pages 1 - 23 was admitted into evidence.

## **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) eligibility on August 1, 2016?

# **FINDINGS OF FACT**

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

- 1. Petitioner and her spouse, were ongoing recipients of Medical Assistance (MA) benefits. Their Medical Assistance (MA) eligibility was due for re-determination.
- 2. On June 30, 2016, Petitioner submitted a Redetermination (DHS-1010) form.
- 3. On July 15, 2016, a Secretary of State inquiry by the Department showed a boat and three automobiles registered under the names of Petitioner and/or her spouse. A Verification Checklist (DHHS-3503) was issued requesting verification of the ownership status of the vehicles and their value. The verifications were due back on July 25, 2016.

- 4. On August 1, 2015, the Department had not received verification of the vehicles. Petitioner was sent a Health Care Coverage Determination Notice (DHHS-1606) which stated that she and her spouse were not eligible for Medical Assistance (MA) beginning September 1, 2016 for failure to verify assets.
- 5. On August 8, 2016, Petitioner 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 Medical Assistance (MA) program is established by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1396-1396w-5; 42 USC 1315; the Affordable Care Act of 2010, the collective term for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148, as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, Pub. L. No. 111-152; and 42 CFR 430.10-.25. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers the MA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10, and MCL 400.105-.112k.

Bridges Eligibility Manual (BEM) 400 Assets states that verification sources for vehicles include: title, registration or proof of insurance; loan statement or payment book; and Secretary of State (SOS) inquiry. The Secretary of State (SOS) inquiries submitted by the Department are evidence which show that Petitioner and her spouse own the vehicles at issue.

Petitioner and her spouse assert they no longer own the vehicles at issue. During this hearing neither Petitioner nor her spouse disputed the Department's allegation that verification of their assertion, from Secretary of State (SOS), was not submitted.

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 determined Petitioner's Medical Assistance (MA) eligibility on August 1, 2016.

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

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

GH/nr

Gary Heisler

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

DHHS	
Petitioner	