



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

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

SHELLY EDGERTON
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]

Date Mailed: February 1, 2017
MAHS Docket No.: [REDACTED]
Agency No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

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 January 26, 2017, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner was represented by herself. The Department was represented by Assistance Payment Supervisor [REDACTED]. Department's Exhibit A, pages 1-16 was admitted into evidence.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly stop Petitioner's State Supplemental Payment (SSP) for the month of October 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 was an ongoing recipient of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) from the Social Security Administration and State Supplemental Payment (SSP) from Michigan.
2. On October 1, 2016, the Social Security Administration did not issue Petitioner a regular Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment.
3. On October 11, 2016, the Social Security Administration issued Petitioner her October Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment.

4. On November 1, 2016, the Social Security Administration began issuing Petitioner her Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment on the first of the month.
5. On November 22, 2016, the Department sent Petitioner a Notice of State SSI Payment Change (DHS-430) which stated her quarterly payment would be reduced.
6. On December 1, 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 State SSI Payments (SSP) program is established by 20 CFR 416.2001-.2099 and the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1382e. The Department administers the program pursuant to MCL 400.10.

Bridges Eligibility Manual 660 State SSI Payments (1-1-2016) provides:

SSI BENEFITS

Supplemental Security Income (SSI) is a cash benefit to needy persons who are aged (at least 65), blind or disabled. It is a federal program administered by the Social Security Administration (SSA). States are allowed the option to supplement the federal benefit with state funds. In Michigan SSI benefits include a basic federal benefit and an additional amount paid with state funds. The amount of the state benefit varies by living arrangement.

State SSI Payment

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) issues the State SSI Payment (SSP) to SSI recipients in the following living arrangements:

Independent living.

Household of another. (Living in the household of another person and receiving partial or total support and maintenance in kind from that person.)

Note: For payment levels see RFT 248 Reference Tables.

Payments are made for only those months the recipient received a regular first of the month federal benefit. These are shown on SOLQ as a **recurring payment dated the first of the month. SSPs are not issued for retroactive or supplemental federal benefits.**

The record contains information obtained from the Social Security Administration (Department's Exhibit A pages 6-8) regarding Petitioner's October 11, 2016 payment. Under Payment Flag 1 it states "Regular daily payment (underpayment)." Under Payment Flag 2 it states "Total of type 2 underpayment check."

Petitioner correctly argues that she received did her October 2016 Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payment. The jurisdictional authority delegated to this Administrative Law Judge is contained in a written directive signed by the Department of Health and Human Services' Director, and states:

Administrative Law Judges have no authority to make decisions on constitutional grounds, overrule statutes, overrule promulgated regulations or overrule or make exceptions to the department policy set out in the program manuals.

Bridges Eligibility Manual 660 specifically describes eligibility for a State Supplemental Payment (SSP) as receipt of a regular first of the month federal benefit. Petitioner did not receive a regular first of the month federal benefit in October 2016.

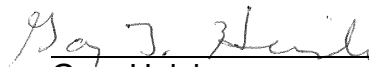
Administrative adjudication is an exercise of executive power rather than judicial power, and restricts the granting of equitable remedies. *Michigan Mutual Liability Co. v Baker*, 295 Mich 237; 294 NW 168 (1940); *Auto-Owners Ins Co v Elchuk*, 103 Mich App 542, 303 NW2d 35 (1981); *Delke v Scheuren*, 185 Mich App 326, 460 NW2d 324 (1990), and *Turner v Ford Motor Company*, unpublished opinion per curium of the Court of Appeals issued March 20, 2001 (Docket No. 223082).

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 stopped Petitioner's State Supplemental Payment (SSP) for the month of October 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

[Redacted]

Petitioner

[Redacted]