RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM

SHELLY EDGERTON DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: May 24, 2018 MAHS Docket No.: 18-001961 Agency No.: Petitioner:

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Zainab A. Baydoun

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; 42 CFR 431.200 to 431.250. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on April 12, 2018 from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner appeared for the hearing and represented himself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Eligibility Specialist.

During the hearing, Petitioner waived the time period for the issuance of this decision in order to allow for the submission of additional records. Petitioner submitted additional records which were received, marked and admitted into evidence as Exhibit 1. The record closed on April 26, 2018 and the matter is now before the undersigned for a final determination on the evidence presented.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly determine that Petitioner was not disabled for purposes of the State Disability Assistance (SDA) benefit program?

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 or around August 14, 2017 Petitioner submitted an application seeking cash assistance benefits on the basis of a disability.
- 2. On or around December 13, 2017 the Disability Determination Service (DDS) found Petitioner not disabled for purposes of the SDA program. The DDS determined that Petitioner was capable of performing other work.

- 3. On February 2, 2018 the Department sent Petitioner a Notice of Case Action denying his SDA application based on DDS' finding that he was not disabled.
- 4. On February 15, 2018 Petitioner submitted a timely written Request for Hearing disputing the Department's denial of his SDA application.
- 5. Petitioner alleged physically disabling impairments due to neck and shoulder pain, thumb pain/complication from shoulder surgery, occipital neuralgia, and headaches. Petitioner alleged mental disabling impairments due to depression, and anxiety with panic attacks.
- 6. As of the hearing date, Petitioner was years old with an **example** date of birth; he was **example** and weighed **example** pounds.
- 7. Petitioner has a high school education and employment history of work as a selfemployed electrician.
- 8. Petitioner has not been employed since he was involved in an auto accident in August 2013.
- 9. Petitioner has a pending disability claim with the Social Security Administration (SSA).

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 State Disability Assistance (SDA) program, which provides financial assistance for disabled persons, was established by 2004 PA 344. The Department administers the SDA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10 *et seq.* and Mich Admin Code, Rules 400.3151 – 400.3180.

Petitioner applied for cash assistance alleging a disability. A disabled person is eligible for SDA. BEM 261 (April 2017), p. 1. An individual automatically qualifies as disabled for purposes of the SDA program if the individual receives Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Medical Assistance (MA-P) benefits based on disability or blindness. BEM 261, p. 2. Otherwise, to be considered disabled for SDA purposes, a person must have a physical or mental impairment for at least ninety days which meets federal SSI disability standards, meaning the person is unable to do any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment. BEM 261, pp. 1-2; 20 CFR 416.901; 20 CFR 416.905(a).

Determining whether an individual is disabled for SSI purposes requires the application of a five step evaluation of whether the individual (1) is engaged in substantial gainful

activity (SGA); (2) has an impairment that is severe; (3) has an impairment and duration that meet or equal a listed impairment in Appendix 1 Subpart P of 20 CFR 404; (4) has the residual functional capacity to perform past relevant work; and (5) has the residual functional capacity and vocational factors (based on age, education and work experience) to adjust to other work. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(1) and (4); 20 CFR 416.945. If an individual is found disabled, or not disabled, at any step in this process, a determination or decision is made with no need to evaluate subsequent steps. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4). If a determination cannot be made that an individual is disabled, or not disabled at a particular step, the next step is required. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4).

In general, the individual has the responsibility to establish a disability through the use of competent medical evidence from qualified medical sources such as his or her medical history, clinical/laboratory findings, diagnosis/prescribed treatment, prognosis for recovery and/or medical assessment of ability to do work-related activities or, if a mental disability is alleged, to reason and make appropriate mental adjustments. 20 CFR 416.912(a); 20 CFR 416.913. An individual's subjective pain complaints are not, in and of themselves, sufficient to establish disability. 20 CFR 416.908; 20 CFR 416.929(a). Similarly, conclusory statements by a physician or mental health professional that an individual is disabled or blind, absent supporting medical evidence, are insufficient to establish disability. 20 CFR 416.927(d).

Step One

The first step in determining whether an individual is disabled requires consideration of the individual's current work activity. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4)(i). If an individual is working and the work is SGA, then the individual must be considered not disabled, regardless of medical condition, age, education, or work experience. 20 CFR 416.920(b); 20 CFR 416.971. SGA means work that involves doing significant and productive physical or mental duties and that is done, or intended to be done, for pay or profit. 20 CFR 416.972.

In this case, Petitioner was not working during the period for which assistance might be available. Because Petitioner was not engaged in SGA, he is not ineligible under Step 1, and the analysis continues to Step 2.

Step Two

Under Step 2, the severity and duration of an individual's alleged impairment is considered. If the individual does not have a severe medically determinable physical or mental impairment (or a combination of impairments) that meets the duration requirement, the individual is not disabled. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4)(ii). The duration requirement for SDA means that the impairment is expected to result in death or has lasted, or is expected to last, for a continuous period of at least 90 days. 20 CFR 416.922; BEM 261, p. 2.

An impairment, or combination of impairments, is severe if it significantly limits an individual's physical or mental ability to do basic work activities. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4)(ii); 20 CFR 416.920(c). Basic work activities mean the abilities and

aptitudes necessary to do most jobs, such as (i) physical functions such as walking, standing, sitting, lifting, pushing, pulling, reaching, carrying, or handling; (ii) the capacity to see, hear, and speak; (iii) the ability to understand, carry out, and remember simple instructions; (iv) use of judgment; (v) responding appropriately to supervision, coworkers and usual work situations; and (vi) dealing with changes in a routine work setting. 20 CFR 416.921(b). A claim may be denied at Step 2 only if the evidence shows that the individual's impairments, when considered in combination, do not have more than a minimal effect on the person's physical or mental ability to perform basic work activities. Social Security Ruling (SSR) 85-28.

The individual bears the burden to present sufficient objective medical evidence to substantiate the alleged disabling impairments. While the Step 2 severity requirement may be employed as an administrative convenience to screen out claims that are totally groundless solely from a medical standpoint, under the de minimis standard applied at Step 2, an impairment is severe unless it is only a slight abnormality that minimally affects work ability regardless of age, education and experience. Higgs v Bowen, 880 F2d 860, 862-863 (CA 6, 1988), citing Farris v Sec of Health and Human Services, 773 F2d 85, 90 n.1 (CA 6, 1985). A claim may be denied at Step 2 only if the evidence shows that the individual's impairments, when considered in combination, are not medically severe, i.e., do not have more than a minimal effect on the person's physical or mental ability to perform basic work activities. Social Security Ruling (SSR) 85-28. If such a finding is not clearly established by medical evidence or if the effect of an impairment or combination of impairments on the individual's ability to do basic work activities cannot be clearly determined, adjudication must continue through the sequential evaluation process. Id.; SSR 96-3p.

The medical evidence presented at the hearing and in response to the interim order was thoroughly reviewed and is briefly summarized below:

Petitioner's 2016-2017 treatment records from the

were presented for review and show that Petitioner presented with continued complaints of neck pain radiating into the left upper extremity. Neck pain starts in the neck, radiates to the trap, to the deltoid, to the side of the biceps, to the top of the forearm and into the hand. Left shoulder pain was reported as was continuing occipital headaches that shoot to the left eye. He reported left thumb numbness and tingling that began after his first left shoulder surgery in November 2015. It was noted that Petitioner had bilateral occipital nerve blocks done in April 2017. Upon physical examination of the cervical spine in October 2017, the doctor noted: paraspinal muscle spasm upon palpation of the cervical spine; paraspinal muscle tenderness; Trapezial muscle tenderness; range of motion shows flexion and extension decreased in the cervical region extension with facet pain; deep tendon reflexes were +2/4 for biceps, triceps, brachioradials with negative Hoffman's signs and negative clonus; positive Neer's, Hawkin's, and Spurling's was noted on the left. Left shoulder examination also showed positive Neer's and Hawkin's. There was positive tenderness and fullness muscle spasms in the neck and lower back. A recent MRI of Petitioner's left shoulder was reviewed in October 2017 and showed full-thickness tear of the supraspinatus, a high-grade tear of the infraspinatus and an anterior labral tear. Acromioclavicular joint showed degenerative changes even though Petitioner had a previous distal clavicle resection. An EMG completed at in March 2017 showed right and left wrist carpal tunnel syndrome and an MRI of the cervical spine showed disc herniation at C5-6. The impression indicates: cervical disc herniation at C5-6; cervical facet syndrome; cervical strain/sprain and noted the tears in the left shoulder. The treatment plan indicates that Petitioner is to continue having occipital nerve blocks and continues to be disabled from job duties as he has not reached his pre-accident status. Additional records from October 2017 indicate that Petitioner was placed on a five pound lifting restriction, and further restricted from housework as he is unable to bend, lift, twist, sit or stand for prolonged periods of time.

Petitioner's records from **Sector** show that he was diagnosed and has been receiving treatment for occipital neuralgia (following auto injury three years ago) and adjustment disorder with mixed anxiety and depressed mood. Treatment notes from March and April 2017 indicate that Petitioner has occipital neuralgia in the left occipital scalp which radiates anteriorly and is associated with scalp tenderness and there has been no lasting benefit with numerous nerve block procedures previously tried. It was noted that a possible causes are injury to the nerves caused by trauma to the back of the head, compression of the nerves by contraction of paracervical muscles, or physical compression of the nerve roots by a displaced or herniated cervical disc. An MRA of the brain and neck showed no evidence of a sizeable aneurysm, stenosis or dissection and an MRI of the brain showed nonspecific ischemic change.

On September 26, 2017 Petitioner participated in a consultative mental examination and reported daily depression with down mood, poor self-esteem, and poor sleep. He reported that his sleep is disrupted by worries, nightmares, and pain. Petitioner was observed to have a sad look about him, guiet and appeared to have a depressed and anxious mood with a flat affect. Petitioner reported that he experiences panic attacks which include rapid heartbeat, shortness of breath, tightness in his chest, sweating and light-headedness. Petitioner reported that he was in a motor vehicle accident in August 2013 which resulted in the above referenced physical impairments. He reported that he has had two prior left shoulder surgeries which have been unsuccessful. He reported that he has frequent nightmares and frequent intrusive memories of the accident, is hyper vigilant and suspicious of others looking out for potential harm. Petitioner disclosed that he experiences strong, vivid memories and flashback feelings of the car accident which can trigger panic attacks that have required him to pull over. He reported that there are times when he feels worthless and useless and he admitted to sometimes having suicidal ideations but has no history of acting on them. The examiner noted that Petitioner did not appear to be exaggerating his symptoms or deliberately misrepresenting himself. The medical source statement indicates that Petitioner's abilities to understand, remember and carry out simple instructions are not severely impacted but his abilities to respond appropriately to others, including supervisors and coworkers and adaptability to changes in a work setting are severely impacted, as is his ability to perform work related activities in a reliable, consistent and persistent manner. Petitioner's prognosis was very guarded and he was diagnosed with major depressive

disorder chronic and at least moderate, panic disorder without agoraphobia-becoming chronic, post-traumatic stress disorder, and stress exacerbating somatic problems.

Petitioner presented additional medical records for his treatment at which show that he is currently being treated for cervical spine pain, anxiety, panic attacks, and numbness of thumb. He also presented current treatment records from showing that he is still receiving nerve blocks and his treating physician continues to find him disabled from his job duties, all housework, and lifting, bending, twisting, prolonged sitting or standing, due to the problems with his left shoulder. Petitioner also presented records documenting his physical therapy evaluation/assessments from February 2018 and April 2018. (Exhibit 1)

In consideration of the *de minimis* standard necessary to establish a severe impairment under Step 2, the foregoing medical evidence is sufficient to establish that Petitioner suffers from severe physical and mental impairments that have lasted or are expected to last for a continuous period of not less than 90 days. Therefore, Petitioner has satisfied the requirements under Step 2, and the analysis will proceed to Step 3.

Step Three

Step 3 of the sequential analysis of a disability claim requires a determination if the individual's impairment, or combination of impairments, is listed in Appendix 1 of Subpart P of 20 CFR, Part 404. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4)(iii). If an individual's impairment, or combination of impairments, is of a severity to meet or medically equal the criteria of a listing and meets the duration requirement (20 CFR 416.909), the individual is disabled. If not, the analysis proceeds to the next step.

Based on the medical evidence presented in this case, listings 1.02 (major dysfunction of a joint(s) due to any cause), 1.04 (disorders of the spine), 12.04 (depressive, bipolar and related disorders), 12.06 (anxiety and obsessive-compulsive disorders) and 12.15 (trauma-and stressor-related disorders) were considered. A thorough review of the medical evidence presented does **not** show that Petitioner's impairments meet or equal the required level of severity of any of the listings in Appendix 1 to be considered as disabling without further consideration. Therefore, Petitioner is not disabled under Step 3 and the analysis continues to Step 4.

Residual Functional Capacity

If an individual's impairment does not meet or equal a listed impairment under Step 3, before proceeding to Steps 4 and 5, the individual's residual functional capacity (RFC) is assessed. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4); 20 CFR 416.945. RFC is the most an individual can do, based on all relevant evidence, despite the limitations from the impairment(s), including those that are not severe, and takes into consideration an individual's ability to meet the physical, mental, sensory and other requirements of work. 20 CFR 416.945(a)(1), (4); 20 CFR 416.945(e).

RFC is assessed based on all relevant medical and other evidence such as statements provided by medical sources, whether or not they are addressed on formal medical

examinations, and descriptions and observations of the limitations from impairment(s) provided by the individual or other persons. 20 CFR 416.945(a)(3). This includes consideration of (1) the location/duration/frequency/intensity of an applicant's pain; (2) the type/dosage/effectiveness/side effects of any medication the applicant takes to relieve pain; (3) any treatment other than pain medication that the applicant has received to relieve pain; and (4) the effect of the applicant's pain on his or her ability to do basic work activities. 20 CFR 416.929(c)(3). The applicant's pain must be assessed to determine the extent of his or her functional limitation(s) in light of the objective medical evidence presented. 20 CFR 416.929(c)(2).

Limitations can be exertional, nonexertional, or a combination of both. 20 CFR 416.969a. If individual's impairments and related symptoms, such as pain, affect only the ability to meet the strength demands of jobs (i.e., sitting, standing, walking, lifting, carrying, pushing, and pulling), the individual is considered to have only exertional limitations. 20 CFR 416.969a(b).

The exertional requirements, or physical demands, of work in the national economy are classified as sedentary, light, medium, heavy, and very heavy. 20 CFR 416.967; 20 CFR 416.969a(a). Sedentary work involves lifting no more than 10 pounds at a time and occasionally lifting or carrying articles like docket files, ledgers, and small tools and occasionally walking and standing. 20 CFR 416.967(a). Light work involves lifting no more than 20 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing up to 10 pounds; even though the weight lifted may be very little, a job is in the light category when it requires a good deal of walking or standing, or when it involves sitting most of the time with some pushing and pulling of arm or leg controls. 20 CFR 416.967(b). Medium work involves lifting no more than 50 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing up to 25 pounds. 20 CFR 416.967(c). Heavy work involves lifting no more than 100 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing up to 25 pounds. 20 CFR 416.967(c). Heavy work involves lifting no more than 100 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing up to 50 pounds. 20 CFR 416.967(d). Very heavy work involves lifting or carrying of objects weighing more than 100 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing up to 50 pounds. 20 CFR 416.967(d). Very heavy work involves lifting or carrying of objects weighing more than 100 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing more than 100 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing more than 100 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing more than 100 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing more than 100 pounds at a time with frequent lifting or carrying of objects weighing to 50 pounds. 20 CFR 416.967(e).

If an individual has limitations or restrictions that affect the ability to meet demands of jobs other than strength, or exertional, demands, the individual is considered to have only nonexertional limitations or restrictions. 20 CFR 416.969a(a) and (c). Examples of non-exertional limitations or restrictions include difficulty functioning due to nervousness. anxiousness. or depression; difficulty maintaining attention or concentration; difficulty understanding or remembering detailed instructions; difficulty in seeing or hearing; difficulty tolerating some physical feature(s) of certain work settings (i.e., unable to tolerate dust or fumes); or difficulty performing the manipulative or postural functions of some work such as reaching, handling, stooping, climbing, crawling, or crouching, 20 CFR 416.969a(c)(1)(i) - (vi). For mental disorders. functional limitation(s) is assessed based upon the extent to which the impairment(s) interferes with an individual's ability to function independently, appropriately, effectively, and on a sustained basis. Id.; 20 CFR 416.920a(c)(2). Chronic mental disorders, structured settings, medication, and other treatment and the effect on the overall degree

of functionality are considered. 20 CFR 416.920a(c)(1). In addition, four broad functional areas (activities of daily living; social functioning; concentration, persistence or pace; and episodes of decompensation) are considered when determining an individual's degree of mental functional limitation. 20 CFR 416.920a(c)(3). The degree of limitation for the first three functional areas is rated by a five point scale: none, mild, moderate, marked, and extreme. 20 CFR 416.920a(c)(4). A four point scale (none, one or two, three, four or more) is used to rate the degree of limitation in the fourth functional area. Id. The last point on each scale represents a degree of limitation that is incompatible with the ability to do any gainful activity. Id.

In this case, Petitioner alleges both exertional and nonexertional limitations due to his medical conditions.

Petitioner testified that his impairments are a result of a car accident that he was involved in August 2013. He stated that he had surgery on his neck in 2014 and surgeries on his left shoulder in November 2015 and December 2016, both of which were unsuccessful. Petitioner testified that after the accident he began suffering from occipital headaches that sometimes last up to three days. He stated that he has pain in his neck that radiates down to his shoulders and that he no longer has the upper body strength to lift due to his nerve issues. Petitioner stated that he can walk/stand for one hour and sit for not more than two hours but will be in pain. He testified that he remains on a five to ten pound lifting restriction. The records indicated that he is further restricted from bending and twisting. Petitioner testified that he lives in his father's basement and can dress himself and do basic household chores at a very slow pace. He stated that he has difficulty gripping or grasping items, especially with his left hand.

With respect to his mental/nonexertional impairments, Petitioner testified that he has been diagnosed with severe depression, anxiety and PTSD and further that his sleep is interrupted by nightmares from the accident he was involved in. Petitioner stated that he suffers from panic attacks and gets anxiety when someone comes up to him from behind, causing him to be shaky and nervous. Petitioner reported that he has difficulty with concentration and memory and that he has crying spells.

A two-step process is applied in evaluating an individual's symptoms: (1) whether the individual has a medically determinable impairment that could reasonably be expected to produce the individual's alleged symptoms and (2) whether the individual's statement about the intensity, persistence and limiting effects of symptoms are consistent with the objective medical evidence and other evidence on the record from the individual, medical sources and nonmedical sources. SSR 16-3p.

The evidence presented is considered to determine the consistency of Petitioner's statements regarding the intensity, persistence and limiting effects of his symptoms. Based on a thorough review of Petitioner's medical records, some of which are referenced above, with respect to Petitioner's exertional limitations, it is found, based on a review of the entire record, that Petitioner maintains the physical capacity to perform sedentary work as defined by 20 CFR 416.967(a).

The medical records presented show that Petitioner had been diagnosed with and was receiving mental health treatment for depressive disorder, anxiety, and PTSD. The evidence indicates that Petitioner's symptoms included among other things, experiencing panic attacks and strong, vivid memories and flashback feelings of the car accident. Based on the medical evidence presented, as well as Petitioner's testimony, it is found that Petitioner has mild to moderate limitations on his mental/nonexertional ability to perform basic work activities.

Petitioner's RFC is considered at both Steps 4 and 5. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4), (f) and (g).

Step Four

Step 4 in analyzing a disability claim requires an assessment of Petitioner's RFC and past relevant employment. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4)(iv). Past relevant work is work that has been performed by Petitioner (as actually performed by Petitioner or as generally performed in the national economy) within the past 15 years that was SGA and that lasted long enough for the individual to learn the position. 20 CFR 416.960(b)(1) and (2). An individual who has the RFC to meet the physical and mental demands of work done in the past is not disabled. *Id.*; 20 CFR 416.960(b)(3); 20 CFR 416.920. Vocational factors of age, education, and work experience, and whether the past relevant employment exists in significant numbers in the national economy are **not** considered. 20 CFR 416.960(b)(3).

Petitioner's employment history in the 15 years prior to the application consists of work as a self-employed electric contractor which required standing up to 10 hours daily, sitting sometimes for six hours daily and regularly lifting a 30 pound tool bag up to a several hundred pound electric generator. Based on the evidence presented, it is categorized as requiring a range from medium to very heavy exertion.

Based on the RFC analysis above, Petitioner's exertional RFC limits him to sedentary work activities. As such, Petitioner is incapable of performing past relevant work. Because Petitioner is unable to perform past relevant work, he cannot be found disabled, or not disabled, at Step 4, and the assessment continues to Step 5.

<u>Step 5</u>

If an individual is incapable of performing past relevant work, Step 5 requires an assessment of the individual's RFC and age, education, and work experience to determine whether an adjustment to other work can be made. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4)(v); 20 CFR 416.920(c). If the individual can adjust to other work, then there is no disability; if the individual cannot adjust to other work, then there is a disability. 20 CFR 416.920(a)(4)(v).

At this point in the analysis, the burden shifts from Petitioner to the Department to present proof that Petitioner has the RFC to obtain and maintain substantial gainful employment. 20 CFR 416.960(c)(2); *Richardson v Sec of Health and Human Services*, 735 F2d 962, 964 (CA 6, 1984). While a vocational expert is not required, a finding

supported by substantial evidence that the individual has the vocational qualifications to perform specific jobs is needed to meet the burden. *O'Banner v Sec of Health and Human Services*, 587 F2d 321, 323 (CA 6, 1978).

When the impairment(s) and related symptoms, such as pain, only affect the ability to perform the exertional aspects of work-related activities, Medical-Vocational guidelines found at 20 CFR Subpart P, Appendix 2, may be used to satisfy the burden of proving that the individual can perform specific jobs in the national economy. *Heckler v Campbell*, 461 US 458, 467 (1983); *Kirk v Secretary*, 667 F2d 524, 529 (CA 6, 1981) *cert den* 461 US 957 (1983).

However, when a person has a combination of exertional and nonexertional limitations or restrictions, the rules pertaining to the strength limitations provide a framework to guide the disability determination **unless** there is a rule that directs a conclusion that the individual is disabled based upon strength limitations. 20 CFR 416.969a(d).

In this case, Petitioner was vears old at the time of application and at the time of hearing, and, thus, considered to be closely approaching advanced age for purposes of Appendix 2. As of the issuance of this Hearing Decision and Order, Petitioner was vears old and considered to be advanced age. He is a high school graduate who has semi-skilled work history that is not transferrable. Thus, the Medical-Vocational Guidelines result in a disability finding based on Petitioner's exertional limitations.

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 Petitioner disabled for purposes of the SDA benefit program.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's determination is **REVERSED**.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO INITIATE THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE THE ORDER WAS ISSUED:

- 1. Reregister and process Petitioner's August 14, 2017 SDA application to determine if all the other non-medical criteria are satisfied and notify Petitioner of its determination;
- 2. Supplement Petitioner for lost benefits, if any, that Petitioner was entitled to receive if otherwise eligible and qualified; and

3. Review Petitioner's continued eligibility in October 2018.

ZB/tlf

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Záinab A. Baydoun 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) 763-0155; 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

Via Email:

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Petitioner – Via First-Class Mail: