GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

# STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING SYSTEM

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: April 8, 2019 MAHS Docket No.: 18-014092

Agency No.: Petitioner:

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Aaron McClintic

## **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; 42 CFR 438.400 to 438.424; 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 March 27, 2019, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by himself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Samantha Bishop Eligibility Specialist. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-28 was received and admitted.

## **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) application due to disqualification?

## **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 found to have committed and Intentional Program Violation (IPV) in June 2018 and a ten-year disqualification was imposed due to concurrent receipt of benefits in another state. (Ex. 1, pp. 11-16)
- 2. On 2018, Petitioner applied for FAP benefits.
- 3. On December 7, 2018, Notice of Case Action was sent to Petitioner informing him that his application was denied due to Intentional Program Violation disqualification. (Ex. 1, pp. 22-25)
- 4. On December 14, 2018, Petitioner requested hearing disputing the denial of FAP benefits.

## **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 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-.3011.

In this case, Petitioner previously was found to have committed an IPV in June 2018 and a 10-year sanction was imposed due to Petitioner having received assistance in two states. (BAM 720 p.16, 7 CFR 273.16(b)(5)) Petitioner had an opportunity to contest the IPV but he failed to do so, that decision cannot be reviewed by the undersigned administrative law judge under the principle of res judicata. Petitioner was under the 10-year disqualification at the time of the November 2018 application, therefore the denial due to the disqualification was proper and correct.

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 denied Petitioner's FAP application due to IPV disqualification.

## **DECISION AND ORDER**

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

AM/nr

Aaron McClintic

Administrative Law Judge for Robert Gordon, 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

**DHHS** 

Nicolette Vanhavel 235 S Grand Ave Ste 1207 Lansing, MI 48933

SSPC County DHHS- via electronic mail

M. Holden- via electronic mail

D. Sweeney- via electronic mail

**Petitioner** 

