GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

# STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: September 18, 2019 MOAHR Docket No.: 19-008881

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 September 11, 2019, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by himself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Becky Frazier. Damon Holm, AP Worker, also appeared and testified for the Department. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-40 was received and admitted.

## **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly determine Petitioner's Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits?

### 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 2019, Petitioner applied for State Emergency Relief (SER) seeking eviction prevention assistance.
- 2. On July 25, 2019, Petitioner's application for SER was denied.
- 3. On July 25, 2019, Petitioner's FAP benefits were budgeted and Petitioner was awarded \$15 for the month of September 2019.
- 4. On August 5, 2019, Petitioner requested hearing disputing the denial of SER and amount of his FAP benefits.
- 5. At hearing, Petitioner abandoned his appeal regarding the SER denial.

## **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.

The State Emergency Relief (SER) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The SER program is administered by the Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) pursuant to MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.7001-.7049.

In this case, at hearing Petitioner abandoned his appeal regarding the SER denial.

With regard to FAP benefits, the only month in dispute is September 2019. The Department presented sufficient evidence to establish that Petitioner receives \$ in Social security benefit. Petitioner receives \$ monthly in earned income. After deducting the \$158 standard deduction, \$ earned income deduction, and excess shelter deduction of \$222 Petitioner has \$ in net income. A recipient who has \$ in net income is entitled to \$15 in monthly FAP benefit. This is the amount determined by the Department for September 2019 and it is proper and correct. RFT 260, BEM 556, 7 CFR § 273.9

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 FAP benefits.

## **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 Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR).

A party may request a rehearing or reconsideration of this Order if the request is received by MOAHR 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. MOAHR will not review any response to a request for rehearing/reconsideration.

A written request may be mailed or faxed to MOAHR. If submitted by fax, the written request must be faxed to (517) 763-0155; Attention: MOAHR Rehearing/Reconsideration Request.

If submitted by mail, the written request must be addressed as follows:

Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules Reconsideration/Rehearing Request P.O. Box 30639 Lansing, Michigan 48909-8139

**DHHS** 

Kimberly Kornoelje 121 Franklin SE Grand Rapids, MI 49507

Kent County DHHS- via electronic mail

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**Petitioner** 

