



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]
MI [REDACTED]

Date Mailed: June 30, 2020
MOAHR Docket No.: 20-003483
Agency No.: [REDACTED]
Respondent: [REDACTED]

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Carmen G. Fahie

HEARING DECISION

Upon the request for a hearing by the Department of Health and Human Services (Department), this matter is before the undersigned Administrative Law Judge pursuant to MCL 400.9, and in accordance with Titles 7, 42 and 45 of the Code of Federal Regulation (CFR), particularly 7 CFR 273.16, 42 CFR 431.230(b), and 45 CFR 235.110, and with Mich Admin Code, R 400.3130 and 400.3178. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on June 25, 2020, from Lansing, Michigan. The Department was represented by Jason Moore, Recoupment Specialist. Respondent was represented by herself, her brother and interpreter, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], from the Refugee Settlement Agency.

ISSUE

Did Respondent receive an overissuance (OI) of Food Assistance Program (FAP) through Department error?

FINDINGS OF FACT

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

1. Respondent was a recipient of FAP benefits from the Department.
2. The Department alleges Respondent received a FAP OI during the period December 1, 2019, through February 29, 2020, due to **Department's** error.
3. The Department alleges that Respondent received \$462.00 OI that is still due and owing to the Department.
4. On March 11, 2020, the Department received a hearing request from Respondent, contesting the Department's negative action.

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 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 to .3015.

Additionally, Respondent was a recipient of FAP benefits from the Department. The Department alleges Respondent received a FAP OI during the period December 1, 2019, through February 29, 2020, due to **Department's** error. The Department alleges that Respondent received \$462.00 OI that is still due and owing to the Department. On March 11, 2020, the Department received a hearing request from Respondent, contesting the Department's negative action. Department Exhibit 1, pgs. 1-51.

During the hearing, the Department reported that Respondent's employer properly reported to the Eligibility Specialist Respondent's income, but the Department failed to budget the earned income. As a result, Respondent received an OI of FAP benefits due to Agency's error of \$462, which she has to pay back because it is over the \$250 threshold based on Department's policy. BAM 105, 110, 115, 220, 400, 600, 700, 705, and 725. BEM 500, 501, 505, 550, 554, and 556.

The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, finds that the Department **did** establish a FAP benefit OI to Respondent totaling \$462.00.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department is AFFIRMED.

The Department is ORDERED to initiate collection procedures for a FAP \$462.00 OI in accordance with Department policy.

CF/hb



Carmen G. Fahie
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

Kalamazoo County via electronic mail

BSC3 via electronic mail

M. Holden via electronic mail

D. Sweeney via electronic mail

MDHHS-OIG via electronic mail

DHHS Department Rep.

MDHHS-Recoupment via electronic mail

Petitioner

[REDACTED]
MI [REDACTED]