



GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS
DIRECTOR

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED], MI
[REDACTED]

Date Mailed: July 28, 2020
MOAHR Docket No.: 20-004035
Agency No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

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 July 22, 2020, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner appeared and testified. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Berniece Ray Recoupment Specialist. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1- 74 was received and admitted.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly determine that Petitioner received an overissuance of 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. Respondent applied for and received FAP benefits from the Department.
2. Respondent disclosed Social Security income, but it was not budgeted.
3. The Department alleges Respondent received a FAP OI during the period July 1, 2019 through May 31, 2020, due to **Department** error.
4. The Department alleges that Respondent received \$3,389 OI that is still due and owing to the Department.

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.

AGENCY ERROR EXCEPTIONS FIP, SDA, CDC and FAP

Agency error overissuances are not pursued if the estimated amount is less than \$250 per program. BAM 705

Additionally, the Department provided sufficient proof that Petitioner received an overissuance of FAP benefits totaling \$3,389. Petitioner disclosed social security income that was not budgeted which caused the overissuance. Department policy requires that overissuances over \$250 even if they are due to agency error to be recouped. BAM 705 This was the actions taken by the Department and it was proper and correct. Petitioner alleged that it was a hardship for her to repay the overissuance and asserted that Department policy allows for forgiveness of the overissuance upon a showing of hardship. Nothing in policy allows for forgiveness of an overissuance upon a showing of hardship.

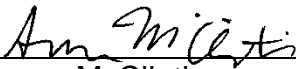
The Administrative Law Judge, based upon the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, finds that the Department **did** establish a FAP benefit OI to Respondent totaling \$3,389.

DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department is AFFIRMED.

The Department is ORDERED to initiate collection procedures for a/an \$3,389 OI in accordance with Department policy.

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

Cindy Tomczak
401 Eighth Street
P.O. Box 1407
Benton Harbor, MI
49023

Berrien County DHHS- via electronic mail

OIG Hearings- via electronic mail

L. Bengel- via electronic mail

DHHS Department Rep.

MDHHS-Recoupment- via electronic mail
235 S Grand Ave
Suite 1011
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48909

Petitioner

 - via first class mail
MI