



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS  
DIRECTOR

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██████████, MI ██████████

Date Mailed: July 7, 2021  
MOAHR Docket No.: 21-002594  
Agency No.: ██████████  
Petitioner: ██████████ ██████████

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:** Kevin Scully

**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; 45 CFR 99.1 to 99.33; and 45 CFR 205.10. After due notice, a telephone hearing was held on June 29, 2021. Petitioner represented himself. The Department was represented by Linda Perkins.

**ISSUE**

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly deny Petitioner’s application for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance?

**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 applied for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance on ██████
2. On April 5, 2021, the Department sent Petitioner a SER Verification Checklist (DHS-3503-SER) requesting verification of his assets by April 12, 2021. Exhibit A, p 11.
3. On April 13, 2021, the Department notified Petitioner that his State Emergency Relief (SER) application had been denied. Exhibit A, pp 12-13.
4. On ██████ the Department received Petitioner’s request for a hearing protesting the denial of his application for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance. Exhibit A, pp 3-10.

## 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 State Emergency Relief (SER) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1 *et seq.* The Department administers the SER program pursuant to MCL 400.10 of the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1 *et seq.*, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.7000 through R 400.7049.

Clients must cooperate with the local office in determining initial and ongoing eligibility and this includes the completion of necessary forms. Department of Human Services Bridges Assistance Manual (BAM) 105 (July 1, 2020), p 9.

Verification means documentation or other evidence to establish the accuracy of the client's verbal or written statements. Verification is usually required at application/redetermination and for a reported change affecting eligibility or benefit level when it is required by policy, required as a local office option, or information regarding an eligibility factor is unclear, inconsistent, incomplete, or contradictory. The Department uses documents, collateral contacts, or home calls to verify information. A collateral contact is a direct contact with a person, organization, or agency to verify information from the client. When documentation is not available, or clarification is needed, collateral contact may be necessary. Department of Human Services Bridges Assistance Manual (BAM) 130 (January 1, 2021), pp 1-10.

Petitioner applied for SER assistance on [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. On April 5, 2021, the Department requested that Petitioner provide verification of his cash assets and his need for assistance. On April 13, 2021, the Department notified Petitioner that his application for SER assistance had been denied.


The hearing record supports a finding that Petitioner failure to provide the Department with information necessary to determine his eligibility to receive benefits. Petitioner did not offer any evidence that he provided the Department with the requested documents before his application was denied. Petitioner did not offer any evidence that he was instructed to send in a copy of his debt card only.

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 application for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance.

**DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is AFFIRMED.

KS/nr

  
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Kevin Scully  
Administrative Law Judge  
Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and  
Rules (MOAHR)

**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**

Richard Latimore  
4733 Conner  
Detroit, MI 48215

Wayne 57 County DHHS- via electronic  
mail

BSC4- via electronic mail

T. Bair- via electronic mail

E. Holzhausen- via electronic mail

**Petitioner**

██████████ - via first class mail

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██████, MI ██████