GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: January 27, 2023 MOAHR Docket No.: 22-004602

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 January 26, 2023, from Lansing, Michigan. Petitioner was represented by her attorney Anastassia Kolosova, and Petitioner was present for the hearing. The Department was represented by Assistant Attorney General Geraldine A. Brown.

## **ISSUE**

Did the Department of Health and Human Services (Department) properly determine Petitioner's eligibility 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. On \_\_\_\_\_, 2022, the Department received Petitioner's Assistance Application requesting State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance.
- 2. On September 14, 2022, the Department notified Petitioner that she was not eligible for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance.
- 3. On September 30, 2022, the Department received Petitioner's request for a hearing.

#### **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.

State Emergency Relief (SER) helps to prevent loss of a home if no other resources are available, and the home will be available to provide safe shelter for the SER group in the foreseeable future. SER also assists with home repairs to correct unsafe conditions and restore essential services. Department of Health and Human Services Emergency Relief Manual (ERM) 304 (October 1, 2021), p 1.

The Department concedes that Petitioner is eligible for SER assistance and that it has received verification that Petitioner fulfilled her co-payment.

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 did not act in accordance with Department policy when it denied State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance.

#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

Accordingly, the Department's decision is REVERSED.

THE DEPARTMENT IS ORDERED TO BEGIN DOING THE FOLLOWING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH DEPARTMENT POLICY AND CONSISTENT WITH THIS HEARING DECISION, WITHIN 10 DAYS OF THE DATE OF MAILING OF THIS DECISION AND ORDER:

Process Petitioner's claim for State Emergency Relief (SER) assistance, issue State Emergency Relief (SER) as directed by Department policy, and request a Help Desk ticket if necessary.

KS/nr

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

## **Via-Electronic Mail:**

## **Counsel for Respondent**

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## **Interested Parties**

Washtenaw County DHHS BSC4 AG K. Schulze E. Holzhausen MOAHR

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