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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Date Mailed: August 3, 2023
MOAHR Docket No.: 23-003662
Agency No.:
Petitioner:

### ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Ellen McLemore

## **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 August 2, 2023, via conference line. Petitioner was represented by his Authorized Hearing Representative (AHR), \_\_\_\_\_\_. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Susan Durseweh, Hearings Coordinator.

## ISSUE

Did the Department properly close Petitioner's State SSI Payment (SSP) benefit case?

## 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 was an ongoing SSP benefit recipient.
- 2. Effective March 1, 2023, Petitioner stopped receiving SSI benefits.
- 3. On May 20, 2023, the Department sent Petitioner a Notice of State SSI Payment Change informing him that his SSP benefit case was closing effective May 20, 2023.
- 4. On June 26, 2023, Petitioner's AHR submitted a request for 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 SSI Payments (SSP) program is established by 20 CFR 416.2001-.2099 and the Social Security Act, 42 USC 1382e. The Department administers the program pursuant to MCL 400.10.

In this case, Petitioner's AHR submitted a request for hearing disputing the Department's decision to close Petitioner's SSP benefit case. On May 20, 2023, the Department sent Petitioner a notice informing him that his SSP benefits had been cancelled.

SSP is a quarterly payment paid by the State to eligible SSI recipients the last month of each quarter. BEM 660 (January 2017), pp. 1-2. SSP payments are made for only those months the SSI recipient received a regular first of the month federal benefit. BEM 660, p. 1; BAM 600 (October 2015), pp. 29-30. Department policy specifies that these SSI payments are shown on the client's Single Online Query (SOLQ) report as a "recurring payment dated the first of the month." BEM 660, p. 1. Policy further provides that SSPs are not issued for retroactive or supplemental federal benefits. BEM 660, p. 1.

The Department testified that Petitioner's State On-Line Query (SOLQ) showed that as of March 1, 2023, Petitioner was no longer receiving SSI benefits. Petitioner's AHR confirmed that Petitioner is not currently receiving his SSI payment. As Petitioner is no longer receiving SSI, he is no longer eligible for SSP. Therefore, the Department acted in accordance with policy when it closed Petitioner's SSP benefit case.

#### DECISION AND ORDER

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 closed Petitioner's SSP benefit case. Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

Ellen McLemore Administrative Law Judge

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**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 :

DHHS

Susan Derseweh Genesee County DHHS Clio Rd Dist. 4809 Clio Road Flint, MI 48504 **MDHHS-Genesee-Clio-Hearings@michigan.gov** 

Interested Parties L. Karadsheh BSC2

Via-First Class Mail :

# Petitioner MI Authorized Hearing Rep.

