GRETCHEN WHITMER GOVERNOR State of Michigan DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS MICHIGAN OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS AND RULES

ORLENE HAWKS DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: August 21, 2023
MOAHR Docket No.: 23-004054
Agency No.:
Petitioner:

## 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 August 15, 2023, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by herself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Ryan Kennedy. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-23 was received and admitted.

## ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner's FAP application for failing to verify selfemployment income?

# 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 2023, Petitioner applied for FAP benefits.
- 2. On June 20, 2023, a Verification Checklist was sent to Petitioner requesting selfemployment verifications for household member
- 3. On July 5, 2023, Notice of Case Action was sent to Petitioner informing her that her FAP application was denied for failing to verify self-employment income.
- 4. On July 14, 2023, Petitioner requested hearing disputing the denial of FAP benefits.

## 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 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-.3011.

Send a negative action notice when:

The client indicates refusal to provide a verification, or

The time period given has elapsed and the client has **not** made a reasonable effort to provide it. BAM 130 (January 2023)

#### COUNTABLE SELF-EMPLOYMENT INCOME

The amount of self-employment income before any deductions is called total proceeds. Countable income from self-employment equals the total proceeds **minus** allowable expenses of producing the income. BEM 502

In this case, Petitioner applied for FAP benefits and a Verification Checklist was sent to her requesting self-employment verifications for household member **Mathematical A** Self-Employment worksheet DHS-431 form was included with the checklist. Petitioner returned the form with a handwritten note at the bottom, but it was not completed, and it did not include the information the Department needed to make an eligibility determination. (Ex. 1, p.11) Therefore, the denial for failing to verify self-employment income was proper and correct and consistent with Department policy. BAM 130

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 FAP application for failing to verify self-employment income.

#### DECISION AND ORDER

Accordingly, the Department's decision is **AFFIRMED**.

AM/nr

Aaron McClintic Administrative Law Judge

**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

Vivian Worden Macomb County DHHS Mt. Clemens Dist. 44777 Gratiot Clinton Township, MI 48036 MDHHS-Macomb-12-Hearings@michigan.gov

Interested Parties Macomb 12 County DHHS BSC4 M. Holden D. Sweeney MOAHR

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#### Petitioner

