GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

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

MARLON BROWN DIRECTOR



Date Mailed: June 4, 2024 MOAHR Docket No.: 24-004673

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 May 29, 2024, from Lansing, Michigan. The Petitioner was represented by himself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Julie Luczak Overissuance Establishment Analyst. Department Exhibit 1, pp. 1-68 was received and admitted.

#### **ISSUE**

Did the Department properly determine that Petitioner received an overissuance of Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits due to agency error?

#### 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 January 1, 2023, Petitioner received a cost-of-living adjustment from the social security administration.
- 2. The Department was aware that Petitioner received a cost-of-living adjustment.
- On April 5, 2024, a Notice of Overissuance was sent to Petitioner alleging that he received an overissuance of FAP benefits in the amount of \$398 from March 1, 2023, through November 30, 2023, because increased social security income was not budgeted.
- 4. On April 18, 2024, Petitioner requested a hearing disputing the determination of an overissuance.

#### **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.

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 (October 2018)

## OVERISSUANCE PROCESSING

#### FIP, SDA, CDC and FAP

Agency errors (other than CDC **system** errors) are not pursued if the amount is under \$250 per program. BAM 705 (October 2018)

In this case, on January 1, 2023, Petitioner received a cost-of-living adjustment from the social security administration that the Department was made aware of that was not budgeted. As a result, Petitioner received \$398 in FAP benefits from the time period from March 1, 2023, through November 30, 2023, due to agency error. Department policy requires that agency error overissuances be recouped if they are over \$250. BAM 705

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 determined that Petitioner received an overissuance of FAP benefits in the amount of \$398 during the time period from March 1, 2023, and November 30, 2023, due to agency error.

### **DECISION AND ORDER**

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

AM/cc

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 : Interested Parties

MDHHS-Bay-Hearings BSC2-HearingDecisions MDHHS-Recoupment-Hearings N. Denson-Sogbaka B. Cabanaw

M. Holden MOAHR

<u>Via-First Class Mail : Petitioner</u>

