



Date Mailed: October 10, 2025

Docket No.: 25-026464

Case No.: [REDACTED]

Petitioner: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
MI [REDACTED]

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এটি একটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ আইনি ডকুমেন্ট। দয়া করে কেউ দস্তাবেজ অনুবাদ করুন।

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Ky është një dokument ligjor i rëndësishëm. Ju lutem, kini dikë ta përktheni dokumentin.

Date Mailed: October 10, 2025

Docket No.: 25-026464

Case No.: [REDACTED]

Petitioner: [REDACTED]

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; and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. After due notice, a hearing commenced via telephone conference on August 27, 2025. Petitioner appeared and was unrepresented. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department) was represented by Amy Schantz, Eligibility Specialist (ES). During the August 27, 2025 hearing, Petitioner's line dropped from the conference call while she was speaking. Petitioner did not reconnect to the conference line. An Order of Continuance and Notice of Continued hearing was issued scheduling a continued hearing for September 11, 2025. The continued hearing was held on September 11, 2025. Petitioner did not appear. Amy Schantz, ES, represented the Department.

During the hearing proceeding, the Department's Hearing Summary packet was admitted as Exhibit A, pp. 1-80.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly process Petitioner's [REDACTED] 2025 application for State Disability Assistance (SDA)?

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 [REDACTED] 2025, Petitioner applied for SDA and other benefits. (Exhibit A, pp. 7-15)
2. On May 7, 2025, a State Online Query (SOLQ) did not show any current pending applications with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 21-23)
3. On May 7, 2025, a Medical Determination Verification Checklist was issued to Petitioner, requesting completion of several forms as well as proof of a pending Social Security Administration (SSA) application for disability benefits or scheduled appointment to apply for benefits with a due date of May 19, 2025. (Exhibit A, p. 16)

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4. On May 7, 2025, a Notice to Apply was sent to Petitioner stating she was required to apply for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) by May 19, 2025. (Exhibit A, p. 17)
 5. On May 7, 2025, a Verification Checklist was sent to Petitioner requesting several verifications with a due date of May 19, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 18-20)
 6. On May 8, 2025, Petitioner's attorney wrote a letter stating an initial application was filed with SSA but did not specify what type of disability benefits were applied for. (Exhibit A, p. 43)
 7. On May 12, 2025, an interview was completed with Petitioner. Petitioner reported her disability attorney stated there is a pending application with SSA and she thought they filed for both SSI and Retirement, Survivors, and Disability Insurance (RSDI) a few months ago. (Exhibit A, pp. 3 and 24-31)
 8. On May 12, 2025, an SOLQ did not show any current pending applications with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 47-49)
 9. On May 13, 2025, Petitioner submitted requested forms and verification that an application for RSDI was filed. (Exhibit A, pp. 32-46)
 10. On May 14, 2025, a request was sent to SSA to verify application status because the SOLQ did not show any current pending applications. (Exhibit A, p. 3)
 11. On May 15, 2025, an SOLQ did not show any current pending applications with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 50-52)
 12. On May 20, 2025, an SOLQ did not show any current pending applications with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 53-55)
 13. On May 23, 2025, an SOLQ did not show any current pending applications with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 56-58)
 14. On May 27, 2025, a Verification of Application or appeal for SSI/RSDI was received from SSA stating Petitioner applied for RSDI benefits only on May 1, 2025. An SOLQ did not show any new information. (Exhibit A, pp. 4 and 59-60)
 15. On May 28, 2025, a Notice of Case Action was issued denying the SDA application because Petitioner had not applied for SSI benefits with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 4 and 61-64)
 16. On May 30, 2025, a screen shot from the SSA website with no name was submitted to the Department. The screen shot indicated an application for SSI was filed May 23, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 65-66)

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17. On June 2, 2025, an SOLQ showed that Petitioner applied for SSI on May 19, 2025. The May 5, 2025 application for SDA was reprocessed because Petitioner completed requirements within the standard of promptness. (Exhibit A, pp. 4 and 67-69)
 18. On June 5, 2025, Petitioner's case was sent to the Medical Review Team/Disability Determination Services (MRT/DDS) for a disability determination for the May 6, 2025 SDA application. (Exhibit A, p. 4)
 19. On July 8, 2025, Petitioner submitted an unsigned hearing request because the Department had not determined her eligibility for SDA within the standard of promptness. (Exhibit A, pp. 4 and 70-73)
 20. On July 23, 2025, the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR) issued a letter noting the hearing request was not signed and stating MOAHR denied hearing requests without signatures. (MOAHR Docket No. 25-025876 July 23, 2025 Letter issued by MOAHR)
 21. On July 23, 2025, Petitioner submitted a signed hearing request. (Exhibit A, p. 6)

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 Disability Assistance (SDA) program is established by the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b. The Department of Health and Human Services (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers the SDA program pursuant to 42 CFR 435, MCL 400.10 and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3151-.3180.

The standard of promptness (SOP) begins the date the department receives an application/filing form, with minimum required information. BAM 115, October 4, 2024, p. 15. The SOP for SDA applications is 60 days. The SOP can be extended 60 days from the date of deferral by the Medical Review Team (now Disability Determination Services). BAM 115, pp. 15-16. When an application is not processed by the SOP date, the Department is to document the reason(s) in the case record and document further delays at 30-day intervals. BAM 115, p. 33.

In this case, Petitioner applied for SDA and other benefits on [REDACTED] 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 7-15). The evidence shows that the Department promptly began trying to verify that Petitioner had applied for SSI and made numerous attempts to obtain this information. On May 7, 2025, a SOLQ did not show any current pending applications with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 21-23). On May 7, 2025, a Medical Determination Verification Checklist

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was issued to Petitioner requesting completion of several forms as well as proof of a pending SSA application for disability benefits or scheduled appointment to apply for benefits with a due date of May 19, 2025. (Exhibit A, p. 16). On May 7, 2025, a Notice to Apply was sent to Petitioner stating she was required to apply for SSI by May 19, 2025. (Exhibit A, p. 17). On May 12, 2025, an interview was completed with Petitioner. Petitioner reported her disability attorney stated there is a pending application with SSA and she thought they filed for both SSI and RSDI a few months ago. (Exhibit A, pp. 3 and 24-31). On May 12, 2025, an SOLQ did not show any current pending applications with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 47-49). On May 13, 2025, Petitioner submitted requested forms and verification that an application for RSDI was filed. (Exhibit A, pp. 32-46). On May 14, 2025, a request was sent to SSA to verify application status because the SOLQ did not show any current pending applications. (Exhibit A, p. 3). On May 15, 2025, an SOLQ did not show any current pending applications with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 50-52). On May 20, 2025, an SOLQ did not show any current pending applications with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 53-55). On May 23, 2025, an SOLQ did not show any current pending applications with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 56-58). On May 27, 2025, a Verification of Application or appeal for SSI/RSDI was received from SSA stating Petitioner applied for RSDI benefits only on May 1, 2025. An SOLQ did not show any new information. (Exhibit A, pp. 4 and 59-60).

On May 28, 2025, a Notice of Case Action was issued denying the SDA application because Petitioner had not applied for SSI benefits with SSA. (Exhibit A, pp. 4 and 61-64). As described above, the Department had requested that Petitioner provide verification that she had applied for SSI benefits, ran multiple SOLQ reports, and even sent a request to SSA to verify that Petitioner had applied for SSI. Despite these numerous attempts, the Department did not receive verification that Petitioner had applied for SSI. Accordingly, the May 28, 2025 denial was appropriate based on the information available to the Department at that time.

On May 30, 2025, a screen shot from the SSA website with no name was submitted to the Department. The screen shot indicated an application for SSI was filed May 23, 2025. (Exhibit A, pp. 65-66). On June 2, 2025, an SOLQ showed that Petitioner applied for SSI on May 19, 2025. Accordingly, the May 5, 2025 application for SDA was reprocessed because Petitioner completed requirements within the standard of promptness. (Exhibit A, pp. 4 and 67-69).

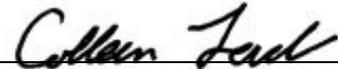
On June 5, 2025, Petitioner's case was sent to the MRT/DDS for a disability determination for the [REDACTED] 2025 SDA application. (Exhibit A, p. 4). The ES testified that as of the hearing date, Petitioner's case was still pending with MRT/DDS. (ES Testimony). While the Department has exceeded the 60 SOP in regard to the May 6, 2025 SDA application, it was not due to a failure to act on Petitioner's request for benefits. The Department made numerous attempts to assist Petitioner with obtaining the needed verification that Petitioner had applied for SSI. Once the needed verification was obtained, the Department promptly began reprocessing the application and sent the case to MRT/DDS for disability determination. The Department has provided

documentation to explain why the SOP was exceeded and should continue to do so in accordance with the BAM 115 policy.

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 processed Petitioner's May 6, 2025 application for SDA.

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



COLLEEN LACK
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

APPEAL RIGHTS: Petitioner may appeal this Hearing Decision to the circuit court. Rules for appeals to the circuit court can be found in the Michigan Court Rules (MCR), including MCR 7.101 to MCR 7.123, available at the Michigan Courts website at courts.michigan.gov. The Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR) cannot provide legal advice, but assistance may be available through the State Bar of Michigan at <https://lrs.michbar.org> or Michigan Legal Help at <https://michiganlegalhelp.org>. A copy of the circuit court appeal should be sent to MOAHR. A circuit court appeal may result in a reversal of the Hearing Decision.

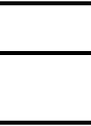
Either party who disagrees with this Hearing Decision may also send a written request for a rehearing and/or reconsideration to MOAHR within 30 days of the mailing date of this Hearing Decision. The request should include Petitioner's name, the docket number from page 1 of this Hearing Decision, an explanation of the specific reasons for the request, and any documents supporting the request. The request should be sent to MOAHR

- by email to MOAHR-BSD-Support@michigan.gov, **OR**
- by fax at (517) 763-0155, **OR**
- by mail addressed to
Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules
Rehearing/Reconsideration Request
P.O. Box 30639
Lansing Michigan 48909-8139

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Documents sent via email are not secure and can be faxed or mailed to avoid any potential risks. Requests MOAHR receives more than 30 days from the mailing date of this Hearing Decision may be considered untimely and dismissed.





Via Electronic Mail:

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