



Date Mailed: October 31, 2025
Docket No.: 25-035270
Case No.: [REDACTED]
Petitioner: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
MI [REDACTED]

This is an important legal document. Please have someone translate the document.

هذه وثيقة قانونية مهمة. يرجى أن يكون هناك شخص ما يترجم المستند.

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

Este es un documento legal importante. Por favor, que alguien traduzca el documento.

这是一份重要的法律文件。请让别人翻译文件。

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

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Docket No.: 25-035270

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 was held via telephone conference on October 22, 2025. Petitioner and [REDACTED], Husband/Attorney, appeared and testified. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department) was represented by Rebecca Ridley, Hearing Coordinator (HC).

During the hearing proceeding, the Department's Hearing Summary packet was admitted as Exhibit A, pp. 1-35.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner's application for Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits?

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 submitted an Assistance Application for FAP benefits for the household of five. (Exhibit A, pp. 8-16)
2. On September 11, 2025, an interview was completed with Petitioner. Income was discussed and the Department believed that Petitioner verbally withdrew the FAP application. (Exhibit A, pp. 2 and 34-35)
3. On September 11, 2025, a Notice of Case Action was issued to Petitioner stating the FAP application was denied based upon Petitioner's request that assistance be stopped. (Exhibit A, pp. 23-26)
4. On September 25, 2025, Petitioner submitted a hearing request contesting the Department's determination. (Exhibit A, pp. 3-5)

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. Upon certification of eligibility results, Bridges automatically notifies the client in writing of positive and negative actions by generating the appropriate notice of case action. The notice of case action is printed and mailed centrally from the consolidated print center. BAM 220, June 1, 2025, p. 2.

In this case, on [REDACTED] 2025, Petitioner submitted an Assistance Application for FAP benefits for the household of five. (Exhibit A, pp. 8-16). On September 11, 2025, an interview was completed with Petitioner. Income was discussed and the Department believed that Petitioner verbally withdrew the FAP application. (Exhibit A, pp. 2 and 34-35). Accordingly, on September 11, 2025, a Notice of Case Action was issued to Petitioner stating the FAP application was denied based upon Petitioner's request that assistance be stopped. (Exhibit A, pp. 23-26).

Petitioner testified that she never verbally withdrew the FAP application. The worker had stated that they would not qualify for FAP due to their income, but Petitioner denied withdrawing the application. (Petitioner Testimony). It appears that there was a misunderstanding during the September 11, 2025 interview. Petitioner credibly testified that she did not verbally withdraw the FAP application. Accordingly, the denial based on a withdrawal of the application cannot be upheld.

DECISION AND ORDER

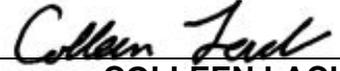
The Administrative Law Judge, based on the above Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and for the reasons stated on the record, if any, finds that the Department failed to satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it denied Petitioner's application for FAP benefits.

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:

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1. Reprocess Petitioner's [REDACTED] 2025 application for FAP benefits in accordance with Department policy.



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

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.

25-035270



Via Electronic Mail:

Respondent

GENESEE COUNTY DHHS CLIO RD DIST
4809 CLIO RD
FLINT, MI 48502

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Via First Class Mail:

Petitioner

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] MI [REDACTED]