



Date Mailed: January 21, 2026
Docket No.: 25-046742
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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Petitioner: [REDACTED]

HEARING DECISION

On December 8, 2025, Petitioner [REDACTED] requested a hearing to dispute the reduction of her Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefit amount beginning October 1, 2025. As a result, a hearing was scheduled to be held on January 15, 2026, pursuant to MCL 400.9, 7 CFR 273.15, and Mich Admin Code, R 792.11002. Petitioner appeared at the hearing. [REDACTED] Petitioner's daughter, appeared and testified as a witness for Petitioner. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Deanna Suddards, Eligibility Specialist.

ISSUE

Did the Department establish that it properly determined Petitioner's eligibility for Food Assistance Program (FAP) benefits effective October 1, 2025?

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 has been a recipient of FAP benefits at all times relevant to this matter.
2. On December 8, 2025, Petitioner filed a request for hearing to contest the Department's reduction of her FAP benefits effective October 1, 2025.
3. On December 22, 2025, the Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules received the Department's Hearing Summary indicating that the effective date of the reduction of Petitioner's FAP benefits was October 1, 2025, and Petitioner was notified of the Department action on October 9, 2025.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

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

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(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. 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).

In this case, Petitioner appeared for the hearing with her daughter who testified on Petitioner's behalf. Petitioner's daughter testified that Petitioner has received Department notices stating that Petitioner's FAP case was going to close and that her FAP benefits were going to be reduced. Petitioner's daughter testified that they are seeking clarification regarding what is occurring with Petitioner's FAP case.

The MDHHS Hearing Summary submitted to MOAHR identifies the effective date of the FAP action at issue as October 1, 2025. The Hearing Summary also reflects that additional decisions were made on Petitioner's FAP case in December 2025. The Department representative testified that she did not prepare the Hearing Summary and was unable to explain what occurred with Petitioner's FAP case in October 2025. The representative was only able to provide an explanation regarding the FAP eligibility determination for December 2025.

The Department bears the burden of going forward to establish that the Department's action taken on Petitioner's FAP case, specifically the action effective October 1, 2025, that prompted the hearing request, was in accordance with applicable law and policy. (BAM 600) Additionally, the Department is required to provide clear and sufficient information to clients regarding their eligibility for program benefits. (BAM 105). Other than the month of December, the Department representative could not provide a clear or complete explanation of the Department's actions affecting Petitioner's FAP case effective October 1, 2025. Because the Department did not meet its burden of proof, the Department's FAP eligibility determination effective October 1, 2025, 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 establish that it properly determined Petitioner's FAP eligibility beginning October 1, 2025.

Accordingly, the Department's FAP decision effective October 1, 2025, 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:

1. Redetermine Petitioner's FAP eligibility beginning October 1, 2025, ongoing.

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2. Issue the FAP supplement that Petitioner may be otherwise eligible to receive, if applicable.

Marya A Nelson-Davis

**MARYA A. NELSON-DAVIS
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.

Via Electronic Mail:

Respondent

OAKLAND COUNTY DHHS – MADISON HTS DIST
30755 MONTPELIER DR
MADISON HTS MI 48071
**MDHHS-CRAWFORD-
HEARINGS@MICHIGAN.GOV**

Via First Class Mail:

[REDACTED]
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