



Date Mailed: January 23, 2026
Docket No.: 25-048071
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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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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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; 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 hearing was held by teleconference on January 21, 2026. Petitioner appeared and represented herself. The Department of Health and Human Services (Department) was represented by Lori Turner, Eligibility Specialist.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly deny Petitioner replacement of stolen 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 December 3, 2025, the Department received a Food Replacement Affidavit from Petitioner. Petitioner requested replacement of \$1,063 in stolen FAP benefits. (Exhibit A, pp. 14 – 16, 21).
2. On December 15, 2025, the Department sent Petitioner a Benefit Notice (NOCA) that denied her request for replacement benefits due to lack of funding. (Exhibit A, pp. 17 – 19, 21).
3. On December 15, 2025, the Department received a request for hearing from Petitioner, disputing the denial of her request for replacement benefits. (Exhibit A, pp. 3 – 5, 21).

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.

In this case, Petitioner requested a hearing to dispute the Department's denial of her request for replacement of stolen FAP benefits. The Department denied Petitioner's request because funding for replacement of stolen FAP benefits ended.

FAP Bridge Card Cloning Fraud Replacement benefits ended effective December 21, 2024, due to non-renewal of federal funding, and FAP benefits stolen on or after that date are not eligible for replacement. Economic Stability Administration (ESA) Memo 2025-02 (January 3, 2025). Requests to replace FAP benefits stolen on or before Dec. 20, 2024, due to Bridge Card cloning fraud, were due by July 31, 2025, and requests received after that date are not eligible for replacement. ESA Memo 2025-28 (July 7, 2025).

Petitioner testified that her FAP benefits were stolen on December 3, 2025, and the record established that the Department received a Food Replacement Affidavit from her on that date. Although Petitioner testified that the Department should issue her replacement benefits because it failed to inform her that replacement FAP benefits were no longer available, FAP benefits stolen on or after December 21, 2024, are not eligible for replacement. Therefore, the Department properly denied Petitioner's request for replacement FAP benefits stolen on December 3, 2025.

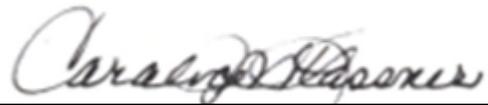
Petitioner was advised that to the extent that her dispute concerned allegations of misconduct or mistreatment of her by a representative of the Department, the undersigned Administrative Law Judge does not have authority to hear or resolve such allegations concerning a state employee, complaints regarding those issues must be directed to the Department or its customer service unit, and that a written complaint against a local Department office may be sent to the local office director's or district office manager's attention. A list of the Department's county directors and their phone numbers can be found at www.michigan.gov/dhs-countyoffices (Click: *Text Listing of County Offices and Addresses*). See also BAM 105 and Mich Admin Code, R 792.1102(3), for more specific information.

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 denied Petitioner's request for replacement FAP benefits stolen on December 3, 2025.

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



CARALYCE M. LASSNER
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.

25-048071



Via Electronic Mail:

Respondent

WAYNE-GREENFIELD/JOY-DHHS
8655 GREENFIELD RD
DETROIT, MI 48228

MDHHS-WAYNE-17-HEARINGS@MICHIGAN.GOV

Via First Class Mail:

Petitioner

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