



Date Mailed: March 6, 2026

Docket No.: 25-048237

Case No.: [REDACTED]

Petitioner: [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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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 video conference on March 4, 2026. Petitioner appeared and was unrepresented. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS or Department) was represented by Alice Gilmer, Family Independence Manager, and Wanda Dexter, Department Analyst.

ISSUE

Did the Department properly issue supplements to Petitioner for Family Independence Program (FIP) cash assistance as ordered in Michigan Office of Administrative Hearings and Rules (MOAHR) Docket No. 25-036292?

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 [REDACTED] 2025, a hearing was held on Docket No. 25-036292.
2. On December [REDACTED] 2025, a Decision and Order was issued on Docket No. 25-036292 that ordered the Department to issue supplements to Petitioner for FIP benefits he was eligible to receive but did not from October 8, 2025 ongoing. Exhibit A, p. 8.
3. Petitioner was eligible for \$[REDACTED] of FIP benefits for each month of November and December 2025. Exhibit A, p. 14.
4. On December 19, 2025, the Department received Petitioner’s request for hearing that disputed the Department’s issuance of supplemental FIP payments as ordered in Docket No. 25-036292. Exhibit A, pp. 4-6.

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).

At the commencement of the hearing, Petitioner testified he did not receive the Department's hearing packet but elected to go forward with the hearing rather than adjourning for the documentation. The Department agreed to mail Petitioner a copy of the Department's 17-page hearing packet dated December [REDACTED] 2025.

The Family Independence Program (FIP) was established pursuant to the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-193, and 42 USC 601 to 679c. The Department (formerly known as the Department of Human Services) administers FIP pursuant to 45 CFR 233-260, MCL 400.10, the Social Welfare Act, MCL 400.1-.119b, and Mich Admin Code, R 400.3101-.3131.

In this case, Petitioner disputed the Department's implementation of the Decision and Order issued in Docket No. 25-036292. While Petitioner did not dispute that the Department removed the October 8, 2025 noncompliance date and reinstated Petitioner's FIP case, Petitioner contended that the Department failed to issue supplemental FIP benefits for November and December 2025 as ordered in Docket No. 25-036292.

The Department is required to implement a Decision and Order within 10 calendar days of the mailing date on the hearing decision. BAM 600 (July 2025), p. 43. For FIP, when a supplement is required by a court order or an administrative hearing decision, the supplement must be issued within 10 workdays after the court order/hearing decision is mailed. BAM 405 (July 2013), p. 1.

Here, the Decision and Order in Docket No. 25-036292, issued on December 5, 2025, ordered that the Department issue supplements to Petitioner for FIP benefits he was eligible to receive but did not from October 8, 2025 ongoing. The Department testified that Petitioner was eligible for \$[REDACTED] of FIP benefits per month. The Department initially testified that no FIP supplements were issued to Petitioner for November or December 2025. Then, the Department testified that two separate checks for the supplements were issued on December 15, 2025 for \$[REDACTED] each for the periods of November and December 2025. The Department stated it did not know if those checks were cashed. Finally, the Department testified that the supplements were *not* issued by check but were issued to Petitioner's electronic benefit transfer (EBT) card.

Policy provides that FIP and SDA clients receive ongoing benefits, early payments and supplemental benefits less than \$1,000 in their EBT cash account. BAM 401E (October 2024), p. 10. However, there is an exception to policy that provides supplements over \$1000 and all replacement benefits are issued as warrants. *Id.* A warrant is a check issued as a regular assistance warrant, a supplemental program benefit, or a vendor payment. BPG (June 2024), p. 75.

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The Department's testimony regarding the issuance of FIP supplements for November and December 2025 was contradictory. No documentation of the issuances, either by check or EBT, was provided at the hearing. Based on Docket No. 25-036292, Petitioner is entitled to FIP supplements for November and December 2025. Despite this, the Department did not produce evidence to show that the supplemental FIP benefits for November 2025 and December 2025 were paid. Therefore, the Department did not satisfy its burden to show that the supplements were issued to Petitioner as ordered.

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 did not satisfy its burden of showing that it acted in accordance with Department policy when it implemented the Decision and Order from Docket No. 25-036292 regarding the issuance of FIP supplements.

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:

1. Mail Petitioner a copy of the Department's 17-page hearing packet dated December 2025;
2. Review Petitioner's record to determine whether FIP supplements for November and December 2025 were issued;
3. If FIP supplements were not issued, issue FIP supplements for November and December 2025, and;
4. Send Petitioner a written benefit notice explaining the status of his FIP benefits for November and December 2025.



**JULIA NORTON
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://rs.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.

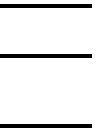
Either party who disagrees with this Hearing Decision may also send a written request for a rehearing and/or reconsideration to MOAHR within 30 days of the mailing date of this Hearing Decision. The request should include Petitioner's name, the docket number from page 1 of this Hearing Decision, an explanation 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
WAYNE-GREYDALE-DHHS
27260 PLYMOUTH RD
REDFORD, MI 48239
**MDHHS-WAYNE-15-GREYDALE-
HEARINGS@MICHIGAN.GOV**



Via First Class Mail:

Petitioner

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]