FH

STATE OF WISCONSIN
Division of Hearings and Appeals

In the Matter of

Redact

DECISION

MDD/161472

PRELIMINARY RECITALS

Pursuant to a petition filed September 15, 2014, under Wis. Stat. § 49.45(5), and Wis. Admin. Code § HA 3.03(1), to review a decision by the Douglas County Department of Human Services in regard to Medical Assistance (MA), a hearing was held on December 17, 2014, at Superior, Wisconsin.

The issue for determination is whether petitioner is disabled.

There appeared at that time and place the following persons:

PARTIES IN INTEREST:

Petitioner:

Redact

Petitioner's Representative:

Redact

Respondent:

Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street, Room 651
Madison, Wisconsin 53703
By: No Appearance

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:
Michael D. O'Brien
Division of Hearings and Appeals

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner is a resident of Douglas County.
2. Petitioner applied for MA on February 4, 2014. By letter dated May 5, 2014, the Bureau found that petitioner was not disabled. Petitioner sought reconsideration, but the Bureau affirmed its determination on October 17, 2014.

3. Prior to or concurrently with the MA application, petitioner also applied for Social Security disability benefits and Supplemental Security Income (SSI). Those benefits were denied on October 17, 2014, with findings of no disability.

4. The petitioner does not allege any new medical impairment, nor any worsening of the impairments considered in the Social Security decision

DISCUSSION

A person between ages 18 and 65, with no minor children, must be blind or disabled to be eligible for MA. A finding of disability must be in accordance with federal social security/SSI standards. See Wis. Stat. § 49.47(4)(a)4. Because the standards are the same, a finding of no disability for Social Security/SSI purposes made within 12 months of the MA application is binding on a State Medicaid (MA) agency. Exceptions may occur only if certain conditions exist such as allegations of a different disabling condition or changes in the previously considered conditions. None of the exceptions apply here. See 42 C.F.R. § 435.541(a); see also U.S. Department of Health and Human Services commentary, 54 Fed. Reg. 236 (1989).

Because petitioner has been denied Social Security/SSI following a finding of no disability, I must conclude that petitioner is not eligible for MA.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Petitioner is not disabled as that term is used for MA purposes pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 49.47(4).

THEREFORE, it is **ORDERED**

That the petition for review is dismissed.

REQUEST FOR A REHEARING

You may request a rehearing if you think this decision is based on a serious mistake in the facts or the law or if you have found new evidence that would change the decision. Your request must be **received within 20 days after the date of this decision.** Late requests cannot be granted.

Send your request for rehearing in writing to the Division of Hearings and Appeals, 5005 University Avenue, Suite 201, Madison, WI 53705-5400 **and** to those identified in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST." Your rehearing request must explain what mistake the Administrative Law Judge made and why it is important or you must describe your new evidence and explain why you did not have it at your first hearing. If your request does not explain these things, it will be denied.

The process for requesting a rehearing may be found at Wis. Stat. § 227.49. A copy of the statutes may be found online or at your local library or courthouse.

APPEAL TO COURT

You may also appeal this decision to Circuit Court in the county where you live. Appeals must be filed with the Court **and** served either personally or by certified mail on the Secretary of the Department of Health Services, 1 West Wilson Street, Room 651, Madison, Wisconsin 53703, **and** on those identified in this decision as "PARTIES IN INTEREST" **no more than 30 days after the date of this decision** or 30 days after a denial of a timely rehearing (if you request one).

The process for Circuit Court Appeals may be found at Wis. Stat. §§ 227.52 and 227.53. A copy of the statutes may be found online or at your local library or courthouse.

Given under my hand at the City of Madison,
Wisconsin, this 18th day of December, 2014

\sMichael D. O'Brien
Administrative Law Judge
Division of Hearings and Appeals

State of Wisconsin\DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS

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The preceding decision was sent to the following parties on December 18, 2014.

Douglas County Department of Human Services
Disability Determination Bureau