



STATE OF WISCONSIN
Division of Hearings and Appeals

In the Matter of:



DECISION

FTI/163038

PRELIMINARY RECITALS

Pursuant to a petition filed January 6, 2015, under Wis. Stat. § 49.85(4), and Wis. Admin. Code §§ HA 3.03(1), (3), to review a decision by the Public Assistance Collection Unit ["PACU"] in regard to FoodShare benefits ["FS"], a Hearing was held via telephone on January 22, 2015.

The issue for determination is whether petitioner's Wisconsin State income tax refund may be intercepted and applied against the following 2 FS overpayment Claims spanning the time period April 1, 2012 to January 31, 2013 with a total current outstanding balance of \$1,424.00 (original amount was \$1,754.00):

(I) Claim # [redacted]; April 1, 2012 to September 30, 2012; outstanding balance of \$1,041.00 (original amount of \$1,086.00); and

(II) Claim # [redacted]; October 1, 2012 to January 31, 2013; outstanding balance of \$383.00 (original amount of \$668.00).

There appeared at that time via telephone the following persons:

PARTIES IN INTEREST:

Petitioner:



Respondent:

Department of Health Services
1 West Wilson Street, Room 651
Madison, Wisconsin 53703

BY: Kristine M. DeBlare, PARIS Agent
Public Assistance Collection Unit
P.O. Box 8939
Madison, WI 53708-8938

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:  
 Sean P. Maloney  
 Division of Hearings and Appeals

### FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Petitioner (CARES # [REDACTED]) was a resident of Wisconsin and is now a resident of [REDACTED].
2. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services ["DHS"] seeks to intercept petitioner's Wisconsin state income tax refund and apply it against the following 2 FS overpayment Claims spanning the time period April 1, 2012 to January 31, 2013 with a total current outstanding balance of \$1,424.00 (original amount was \$1,754.00):
  - (I) Claim # [REDACTED]; April 1, 2012 to September 30, 2012; outstanding balance of \$1,041.00 (original amount of \$1,086.00); and
  - (II) Claim # [REDACTED]; October 1, 2012 to January 31, 2013; outstanding balance of \$383.00 (original amount of \$668.00).
3. For each of the overpayments identified in *Finding of Fact #2*, above, petitioner was sent a written FS overpayment notice entitled *Notification of FS Overissuance* dated June 27, 2013; each of the FS overpayment notices explained the overpayment and how petitioner could file an appeal, including the 90-day time limit for filing an appeal.
4. Petitioner never requested a Hearing in response to the June 27, 2013 FS overpayment notices.

### DISCUSSION

The state shall, at least annually, certify to the Wisconsin Department of Revenue amounts that it has determined it may recover resulting from an overpayment of Food Stamps ["FS"], an overpayment of Medical Assistance ["MA"], an overpayment of Wisconsin Works ["W-2"], an overpayment of Child Care ["CC"], and an overpayment of Aid to Families with Dependent Children ["AFDC"]. Wis. Stat. § 49.85(2) (2013-14).

The state must notify the person of several things, including that it intends to certify the overpayment to the Department of Revenue for setoff from his/her state income tax refund and that the person may appeal the decision by requesting a Hearing. Wis. Stat. § 49.85(3) (2013-14).

The Hearing right is described as follows:

"If a person has requested a hearing under this subsection, the [state] shall hold a contested case hearing under s. 227.44, except that the [state] may limit the scope of the hearing to exclude issues that were presented at a prior hearing or that could have been presented at a prior opportunity for hearing."

Wis. Stat. § 49.85(4) (2013-14).

Petitioner was sent written FS overpayment notices which explained the overpayments and how petitioner could file an appeal -- but never requested a Hearing. Thus, petitioner had a prior opportunity to contest the overpayments listed in *Finding of Fact #2*, above. It follows that petitioner may not now contest the merits of the FS overpayments.

Petitioner does not dispute the existence of the overpayments. Petitioner testified that he would like to make payments on the overpayment, but did not want his state tax refund intercepted. However, petitioner does not claim that the proper procedures for a tax intercept were not followed. Therefore, the tax intercept of petitioner's Wisconsin state income tax refund for the purpose of repaying the FS overpayment Claims identified in *Finding of Fact #2*, above, must be upheld.

### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Petitioner's Wisconsin State income tax refund may be intercepted in the total amount of \$1,424.00 and that amount may be applied against the FS overpayment Claims identified in *Finding of Fact #2*, above.

**NOW, THEREFORE, it is**

### ORDERED

That the petition for review herein be and the same is hereby DISMISSED; DHS may certify the amount of \$1,424.00 to the Department of Revenue, pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 49.85 (2013-14), for purpose of a tax intercept of petitioner to repay the FS overpayment Claims identified in *Finding of Fact #2*, above.

### **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 24th day of February, 2015

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\sSean P. Maloney  
Administrative Law Judge  
Division of Hearings and Appeals



**State of Wisconsin\DIVISION OF HEARINGS AND APPEALS**

Brian Hayes, Administrator  
Suite 201  
5005 University Avenue  
Madison, WI 53705-5400

Telephone: (608) 266-3096  
FAX: (608) 264-9885  
email: [DHAmail@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DHAmail@wisconsin.gov)  
Internet: <http://dha.state.wi.us>

The preceding decision was sent to the following parties on February 24, 2015.

Public Assistance Collection Unit  
Public Assistance Collection Unit