



*State of New Jersey*

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Division of Family Development  
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The following Decision is distributed for your information. This Decision has been made in consideration of the specific facts of this case. This Decision is not to be interpreted as establishing any new mandatory policy or procedure otherwise officially promulgated.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

FINAL DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HPW 9897-14 C.S.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C213841 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's denial of his application for Emergency Assistance ("EA") in the form of back rent. The Agency denied Petitioner's application on the grounds that he mismanaged his funds. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On August 14, 2014, the Honorable Tiffany M. Williams, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing and took testimony. No documents were entered into evidence.

On August 15, 2014, the ALJ issued her Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. The ALJ found that the facts in the matter supported the Agency's conclusion that Petitioner did, in fact, have the financial means to pay his rent during the months he fell behind. See Initial Decision at 3. The ALJ concluded that Petitioner was therefore not eligible to receive EA. *Ibid.*

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the Initial Decision and I concur with the ALJ's determination and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this matter.

By way of comment, the ALJ opines that, while Petitioner is not eligible for EA in form of back rent, he may be eligible for other forms of EA. See Initial Decision at 3. I disagree. Petitioner has been determined in this matter to have caused his own homelessness, without good cause, and is therefore subject to a six-month period of ineligibility for EA benefits from the date of the Agency's denial of Petitioner's application for EA. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(c)(3); see also DFDI 08-4-5.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is ADOPTED and the Agency's action is hereby AFFIRMED.

**AUG 27 2014**

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

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Jeanette Page-Hawkins  
Director