



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
P.O. Box 716
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Chris Christie
Governor

Kim Guadagno
Lt. Governor

Jennifer Velez
Commissioner

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director
Tel. (609) 588-2000

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 11765-14 E.L.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C226087 (PASSAIC COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA"). Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On August 21, 2014, the Honorable JoAnn LaSala Candido, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, admitted documents and issued an Initial Decision which affirmed the Agency determination.

Petitioner submitted exceptions on September 26, 2014.

As Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I independently reviewed the record and hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency determination.

Petitioner receives Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a the Food Stamp Program, benefits.

There is sufficient credible evidence Petitioner caused her own homelessness and by extension is ineligible for EA for 6 months. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(c)(3)(vi) and (vii). Petitioner's former landlord filed a tenancy complaint which alleged Petitioner's apartment was over-crowded, noisy, unsanitary and generally poorly-maintained. In order to resolve the tenancy action, the parties signed a consent judgment wherein Petitioner voluntarily agreed to vacate the apartment.

For the foregoing reasons, I ADOPT the Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency determination.

OCT - 2 2014

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director