



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 13916-14 L.G.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA536756 (MIDDLESEX COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's denial of his application for Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits, the Agency's imposition of a 90-day WFNJ/GA penalty, the denial of his request for Emergency Assistance ("EA"). Because Petitioner appealed, this matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 10, 2014, the Honorable Leland S. McGee, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On November 10, 2014, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision affirming the Agency determination.

Neither party submitted Exceptions to the Initial Decision.

As Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the record for this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision, and having made an independent evaluation of the record, I accept and adopt the Findings of Facts and Conclusions of Law that are contained in the Initial Decision.

A review of the record indicates that Petitioner was denied WFNJ/GA benefits effective October 17, 2014, due to his voluntary quit. See Exhibit R-3. At the hearing before the ALJ, Petitioner asserted he had good cause for voluntarily quitting his employment due to transportation issues, which should thereby qualify him for benefits. See Initial Decision at 2. However, in reviewing the record, I agree with the ALJ that the Petitioner failed to establish good cause for quitting his job. As such, the Agency appropriately denied Petitioner's request for WFNJ/GA benefits and imposed a 90-day penalty. N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.15.

With regard to the Petitioner's request for EA, I note that neither the Initial Decision nor the record address his EA application. However, in order to be eligible to receive EA, the applicant must be a WFNJ recipient or a Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") recipient. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a). Petitioner is not eligible for WFNJ and there is nothing on the record which indicates he is a SSI recipient. The Petitioner is not eligible for EA at this time. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a).

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is ADOPTED and the Agency action is AFFIRMED.

DEC - 2 2014

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director