

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Chris Christie Governor

Kim Guadagno Lt. Governor Division of Family Development P.O. Box 716 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Elizabeth Connolly
Acting Commissioner

Natasha Johnson Director Tel. (609) 588-2400

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 16258-15 M.H.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA489297 (OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits because it contended that Petitioner did not have an emergency beyond his control. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On October 20, 2015, the parties appeared for a hearing before the Honorable John F. Russo, Jr., Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), at which time, the parties entered into a Settlement Agreement ("Settlement"). See Exhibit J-1. On October 22, 2015, the ALJ issued an Emergent Initial Decision, which incorporated the Settlement and recommended approval of same, and thereby directing the parties to comply with the terms of the Settlement.

Having made a full independent review of the Settlement and its terms, as well as the Emergent Initial Decision of the ALJ, I agree that the Settlement should be approved. Therefore, as the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I hereby APPROVE the Settlement entered into in this matter and further ORDER that the parties comply with the terms of the Settlement.

Accordingly, as the matter has now been resolved voluntarily by the parties in this matter, Petitioner's appeal is hereby DISMISSED.

OCT 2 8 2015

Signed Copy on File at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson Director