



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 12975-14 V.B.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C330333 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner challenges the correctness of Respondent Agency's reduction in her Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a the Food Stamp Program, benefits. The Agency maintains that Petitioner's SNAP benefits were reduced due to a reduction in Petitioner's shelter cost, which is a factor used in the calculation to determine the correct benefit amount. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On October 27, 2014, the Honorable James A. Geraghty, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents into evidence.

On November 17, 2014, the ALJ issued his Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed by either party.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the ALJ's Initial Decision and following an independent review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

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

NOV 24 2014

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director