



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
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Commissioner

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NATASHA JOHNSON
Assistant Commissioner

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 01194-20 A.N.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C043635008 (GLOUCESTER COUNTY DIV. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits, and the imposition of a six-month period of ineligibility for EA benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits, and imposed a six-month EA ineligibility penalty, contending that he violated shelter rules, and abandoned his shelter placement, thereby causing his own homelessness. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On February 21, 2020, the Honorable Elaine B. Frick, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On March 11, 2020, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

On August 26, 2020, the Agency representative advised this office that Petitioner had passed away on August 13, 2020. Therefore, as Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I find that a contested case no longer exists, and this matter has now been rendered moot. As such, I hereby DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

Accordingly, Petitioner's appeal now being deemed moot, the matter is hereby DISMISSED.

Officially approved final version.

SEP - 1 2020

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

