



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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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 04130-21 G.D.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C112700015 (OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits, contending that upon redetermination he failed to sign and return certain documents required for continued WFNJ/GA benefits eligibility. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On June 11, 2021, the Honorable Joan M. Burke, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On June 29, 2021, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, upon a redetermination of WFNJ/GA benefits eligibility, and as a regulatory condition for continued eligibility for such benefits, Petitioner was required to provide the Agency with signed WFNJ-10D, WFNJ/GA-30, and WFNJ/GA-30A forms. See Initial Decision at 2-4; see also Exhibits R-2 through R-5, R-7, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.2(f)(8), (i) and N.J.A.C. 10:90-14.5(c). The ALJ found that Petitioner had failed to provide the signed forms to the Agency, and the record also reflects that Petitioner had admitted at the hearing that he would not be signing the forms due to a possible Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") benefits recoupment. See Initial Decision a 4-5. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's termination of Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits was proper and must stand. *Ibid.*; see also Exhibit R-1. I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As Assistant Commissioner, 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 final conclusion in this matter and hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law.

By way of comment, Petitioner is without prejudice to reapply for WFNJ/GA benefits, but is reminded that he must sign all required forms for benefits eligibility.

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



Officially approved final version.

AUG 1 0 2021

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

