



State of New Jersey

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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 04340-21 J.C.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C240962004 (CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for a hearing. On May 21, 2021, the Honorable Joseph A. Ascione, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On May 24, 2021, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, dismissing the matter. The record indicates that Petitioner is currently receiving EA benefits, that the Agency had not terminated Petitioner's EA benefits, and that she is not homeless or imminently homeless. See Initial Decision at 2. As there had been no adverse action taken by the Agency against Petitioner, the ALJ concluded that the OAL had no jurisdiction at the present time to rule in this matter. Ibid. Accordingly, the ALJ dismissed Petitioner's appeal. Ibid. 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 and hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

By way of comment, should Petitioner be denied EA benefits, or her EA benefits are terminated, she may request another fair hearing on those specific adverse actions. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-9.1, -9.3.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is hereby ADOPTED. As there exists no contested issue in the case, I deem the matter moot and it is therefore DISMISSED.

Officially approved final version.

JUN - 1 2021

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

