



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716

SARAH ADELMAN
Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

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 **04323-23 A.H.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C147939001 (ATLANTIC CO. DEPT OF FAM. & COM. DEV)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA"), Emergency Assistance ("EA"), and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/GA and SNAP benefits because she was no longer a resident of Atlantic County, and terminated Petitioner's EA benefits because she was no longer a WFNJ/GA benefits recipient in Atlantic County. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On June 30, 2023, the Honorable Rebecca C. Lafferty, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On July 11, 2023, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determinations. Here, the record reflects that on February 23, 2023, Petitioner requested that the Agency close her WFNJ/GA case because she was moving out of Atlantic County. See Initial Decision at 2, 4; see also Exhibit R-1 at 6, 9-10. Consequently, effective March 1, 2023, the Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits because she was no longer a WFNJ benefits recipient in Atlantic County. See Initial Decision at 2-4; see also Exhibit R-2 at 1-5, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a). Thereafter, by notice dated, March 20, 2023, the Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/GA and SNAP benefits, effective February 28, 2023, because she no longer resided in Atlantic County. See Initial Decision at 2-5; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1-4, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.11(b), N.J.A.C. 10:87-3.2(a), -3.3(a). The ALJ also found that Petitioner was ineligible for EA benefits from Atlantic County because she no longer resided in Atlantic County. See Initial Decision at 6-7; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.8(a)(3). Based on the testimony and documentary evidence presented, the ALJ found that Petitioner no longer resided in Atlantic County at the time of the Agency's terminations of Petitioner's WFNJ/GA, EA, and SNAP benefits, and as such, concluded that the Agency's terminations of said benefits were proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 7-8; see also Exhibits R-1 at 1-4, R-2 at 2-5. 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.

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

Officially approved final version.

July 25, 2023

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

