



## State of New Jersey

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DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT  
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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 **10487-22 K.T.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C130204001 (ATLANTIC CO. DEPT OF FAM. & COM. DEV)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits, contending that she failed to provide required documentation needed to determine her continued eligibility for EA benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for a hearing. A telephonic hearing was initially scheduled for January 13, 2023, however, at the request of the Agency, the hearing was rescheduled for February 10, 2023, and on that date, the Honorable Elaine B. Frick, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents into evidence.

On February 21, 2023, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the ALJ found that the Agency had properly noticed Petitioner regarding the specific documentation required to be provided to the Agency in order for it to determine her continued eligibility for EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3, 8-9; see also Exhibit R-1 at 2, 11-23, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5), -6/1(c)(2). The ALJ also found that Petitioner had, specifically, failed to provide the required verifications of employment income to the Agency by the August 31, 2022, due date, without good cause. See Initial Decision at 3-7. Of note, although untimely, the record reflects that Petitioner had provided the required documentation to the Agency by October 5, 2022, verified by the employer on October 13, 2022, which was after the Agency's notice of termination. See Initial Decision at 8-9; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1-4, 24-36. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's termination of Petitioner's EA benefits was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 8-9; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1-4. 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, it appears from the record that Petitioner is now unemployed, and as such, is advised that she may reapply for EA benefits but must supply all required information and documentation necessary to determine eligibility. See Initial Decision at 4; see also Exhibit R-1 at 30, 37.

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

Officially approved final version. April 4, 2023

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Natasha Johnson  
Assistant Commissioner

