



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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SARAH ADELMAN
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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 **07489-24 T.B.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C171744003 (BURLINGTON COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of her application at recertification for Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits at recertification. The Agency denied Petitioner's application for SNAP benefits at recertification, contending that Petitioner had failed to provide information and documentation necessary to determine continued eligibility. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for a hearing. On June 18, 2024, the Honorable Rebecca C. Lafferty, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents. The record was reopened on June 25, 2024 when it was discovered by the ALJ that, due to a technological issue with Zoom audio technology, only the first few minutes of the hearing were recorded and the remainder of the recording was silent. Upon contact from OAL, both Petitioner and the Agency agreed that the tribunal could re-create the record from handwritten notes taken during the hearing and provide same to the parties for review. Both parties agreed to the recreation of the record and were emailed the proposed written record on June 26, 2024, for their review and approval. On June 26, 2024, both parties responded in agreement, with the Agency requesting one fact be corrected. Upon correction, the written record was finalized and the record again closed on June 26, 2024. On June 28, 2024, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

This office has been advised that the Agency is rescinding its denial, effective March 01, 2024, of SNAP benefits to Petitioner. Therefore, as Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I hereby ORDER and DIRECT the Agency to provide Petitioner with SNAP benefits, so long as she continues to remain eligible for same. Further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and therefore, DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

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

Officially approved final version. August 15, 2024

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

