



State of New Jersey

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY
Acting Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

NATASHA JOHNSON
Director
Tel: (609) 588-2000

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 16637-17 K.C.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C612308007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner challenges the correctness of Respondent Agency's reduction of her Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. A hearing was scheduled for December 5, 2017. At the hearing, Petitioner withdrew her request for a hearing and signed a withdrawal form. That form advises that a request for a hearing may be reinstated with 10 days of executing the withdrawal form. Petitioner then requested to have her appeal reinstated and the matter was then scheduled for January 2, 2018. Petitioner requested an adjournment of that hearing date and the matter was rescheduled for January 10, 2018. However, Petitioner failed to appear for the scheduled hearing and later that same day, requested an additional adjournment. In accordance with applicable regulatory authority, the Honorable Richard McGill, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), correctly denied the adjournment request and dismissed Petitioner's appeal. See Initial Decision at 2-3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:87-8.6(a)(4)(i) and N.J.A.C. 1:10-9.1(b).

No Exceptions to this Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the 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 ADOPT the ALJ's decision. In light of the fact that Petitioner's appeal has been properly dismissed, the Agency's action in this matter must stand and is therefore **AFFIRMED**.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is ADOPTED and the Agency's action is hereby **AFFIRMED**.

Officially approved final version.

JAN 24 2018

Natasha Johnson
Director



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