



State of New Jersey

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Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

NATASHA JOHNSON
Director

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 17355-18 M.T.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C410324007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits, and the denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF and SNAP benefits, contending that her income exceeded eligibility limits, and terminated Petitioner's EA benefits, contending that she was not eligible for said benefits because she was no longer a WFNJ benefits recipient. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 7, 2018, the Honorable John P. Scollo, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On December 10, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Based on the testimony presented, the ALJ found that Petitioner's employment income exceeded the eligibility limits for receipt of WFNJ/TANF and SNAP benefits and, as such, concurred with the Agency's termination of said benefits, while also finding that Petitioner had received proper notice of the termination of her WFNJ/TANF and SNAP benefits. See Initial Decision at 2, 5-8; see also Exhibits R-2, R-3, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.1, and N.J.A.C. 10:87-12.4. The ALJ also found that, because Petitioner was no longer a WFNJ benefits recipient, that she was ineligible for EA benefits, and affirmed the Agency's denial of EA benefits to Petitioner. See Initial Decision at 6-8; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a). I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

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 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, the Agency shall refer Petitioner to any and all agencies and organizations that may be able to assist with her current needs, including Social Services for the Homeless.

By way of further comment, the Agency is reminded of its responsibilities in representation and presentation of a matter at a plenary hearing before an ALJ, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:90-9.12(b).

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



Officially approved final version.

DEC 17 2010

Natasha Johnson

Director

