



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

CAROLE JOHNSON
Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

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 12034-18 V.H.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C100697020 (UNION COUNTY DIVISION OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner challenges the Respondent Agency's determination of the amount of her monthly 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 September 13, 2018. Petitioner appeared a day early for the hearing, on September 12, 2018, and the matter was then rescheduled for September 28, 2018.

On that day, Petitioner appeared for a plenary hearing before the Honorable Susana E. Guerrero, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"). After a discussion with the Agency's representative prior to the commencement of the hearing, Petitioner left the hearing without explanation and did not return. See Initial Decision at 2. As a result, the ALJ found that Petitioner had abandoned the hearing, and dismissed Petitioner's appeal. Ibid.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have reviewed the ALJ's Initial Decision and hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision, and as Petitioner abandoned her fair hearing, the Agency's action stands, and is thereby AFFIRMED.

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

Officially approved final version.

OCT 11 2018

Natasha Johnson
Director

