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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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ELIZABETH CONNOLLY
Acting Commissioner

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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 16685-17 W.T.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C060722006 (CUMBERLAND COUNTY BD OF SOC SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's correctness of a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), and Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA"), benefits recoupment due to an overissuance. The Agency asserts that Petitioner received SNAP and WFNJ/GA benefits to which he was not entitled as the result of a failure to report earned income, which would have made him ineligible for the receipt of said benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 6, 2017, the Honorable John S. Kennedy, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents into evidence.

On December 14, 2017, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's calculation of Petitioner's SNAP and WFNJ/GA benefits. The ALJ noted that Petitioner was previously employed from November 2011 through May 2012, while at the same time receiving both SNAP and WFNJ/GA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 16. According to the Agency's calculations, Petitioner was issued an overpayment of \$927 in WFNJ/GA and \$216 in SNAP benefits over that period of time. Ibid. Petitioner maintained that, although he had been employed during that time period, it was unreasonable for him to repay the overissuance six years later and wished there was more assistance available to him. See Initial Decision at 2. Based on the record presented, the ALJ determined that Petitioner had been unjustly enriched as a result of the overissued benefits, and concluded that Petitioner's overpayment WFNJ/GA and SNAP benefits were correctly calculated by the Agency and that the overissued benefits must be repaid. See Initial Decision at 3-5; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-3.21(a) and N.J.A.C. 10:87-11.20(a), (b). I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the DFD, Department of Human Services, I have reviewed the Initial Decision and having made an independent review of the record in this matter, I hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this matter.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is ADOPTED and the Agency determination in this matter is AFFIRMED.

Officially approved final version.	JAN -	2	2015
Natasha Johnson			
Director			

