



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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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 10381-21 D.C.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C070956016 (PASSAIC COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), and Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA"), benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner SNAP and WFNJ/GA benefits as it contended that Petitioner voluntarily quit her employment, without good cause, and was now subject to a one month period of disqualification under SNAP, and a 90-day disqualification for the WFNJ program. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On January 20, 2022, the Honorable Kimberly A. Moss, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents into evidence.

On January 21, 2022, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that Petitioner applied for WFNJ/GA and SNAP benefits on November 8, 2021. See Initial Decision at 2. Petitioner had a telephone interview with the Agency for benefits on November 24, 2021. Ibid. On November 29, 2021, the Agency issued an adverse action notice, denying Petitioner WFNJ/GA and SNAP benefits because Petitioner had voluntarily quit her employment. See Exhibit R-1 at 1-9. Petitioner asserted that the work demands were unreasonable and that she had not been properly compensated, yet failed to provide any competent evidence to support these contentions. See Initial Decision at 2, 7. Based upon the record presented, the ALJ found that Petitioner was deemed to have voluntarily quit her employment, without good cause. See Initial Decision at 2, 7. As such, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's action to deny Petitioner's application for SNAP and WFNJ/GA benefits, and apply a one month SNAP penalty and 90-day WFNJ/GA penalty, was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 8; see also Exhibit R-1 at 7, 9, N.J.A.C. 10:87-10.5(c)(2)(vi) and N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.15. I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

As Assistant Commissioner, 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 decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.



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

Officially approved final version.

February 17, 2022

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

