



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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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 **18759-25 J.G.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C168737003 (BURLINGTON COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits at recertification. The Agency terminated Petitioner's SNAP benefits at recertification, contending that he failed to provide information as requested and required to determine his eligibility for continued SNAP benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for a hearing. On February 2, 2026, the Honorable Jeffrey N. Rabin, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents. On February 11, 2026, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development ("DFD"), Department of Human Services, I have considered the ALJ's Initial Decision, and following an independent review of the record, the ALJ's Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED and the Agency determination is AFFIRMED, based on the discussion below.

Here, the record reveals that the Agency sent Petitioner a Request for Contact on July 29, 2025, seeking information and verification as to how Petitioner was paying his mortgage of \$2,068.77 per month when he had insufficient income, or alternatively, proof of how he had been paying his expenses such as bank statements or letters of monetary support from family/friends. See Initial Decision at 4; see also Exhibit R-1. Petitioner did not respond to the Request for Contact and Petitioner's case was closed effective August 1, 2025. See Exhibit R-1.

Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that the Agency correctly closed Petitioner's SNAP benefits case at recertification, due to his failure to provide the required verification/information, after requests for same. See Initial Decision at 2, 4-5; see also N.J.A.C. 10:87-2.27(e), and N.J.A.C. 10:87-9.1 et seq. I agree.

By way of comment, Petitioner is without prejudice to reapply for SNAP benefits, but is reminded that he must provide all necessary information and verifications requested to the Agency needed to determine eligibility.

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



Officially approved final version. March 31, 2026

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

