



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
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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 15860-15 C.J.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA569104 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of his Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits in the form of Temporary Rental Assistance ("TRA"). The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits, because it determined that he had exhausted his lifetime limit of EA benefits, and did not meet the eligibility criteria for a further extension under the extreme hardship provision. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 19, 2015, the Honorable Michael Antoniewicz, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On December 8, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The record shows that Petitioner has received 12 months of EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2. The record also shows that Petitioner applied for an extension of EA benefits under the extreme hardship provision, and indicated on his application that he was in danger of losing his employment or a job offer. *Ibid.*; see also Exhibit R-1 at 2. Petitioner provided no proof of a bona fide offer of employment in support of his claim. See Initial Decision at 2; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(b)(1)(i). As such, the ALJ found that Petitioner had exhausted his lifetime limit of EA benefits, and did not meet the eligibility criteria for an extreme hardship extension. *Id.* at 3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a) and (b). Accordingly, the ALJ concluded that the Agency properly terminated Petitioner's EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

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 in this matter.

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

DEC 29 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director