



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 12981-15 J.S.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C410090 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of her Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") cash benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits because it determined that she failed to complete her employment-related required activities, without good cause. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 19, 2015, the Honorable Mumtaz Bari-Brown, 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 is a WFNJ/TANF cash benefits recipient, and was required to complete the following work-related activities: orientation process; TABE test; and ten-day activity. See Initial Decision at 2-3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-4.1(a)(2). The record also shows that when the Agency determined that Petitioner failed to appear for her required work activities, without good cause, it imposed a WFNJ sanction, effective August 15, 2015. See Initial Decision at 2; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-4.11, -4.13. Based upon the evidence presented, the ALJ found that Petitioner failed to complete her required WFNJ work activities, without good cause. See Initial Decision at 3. Accordingly, the ALJ concluded that the Agency properly terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF cash benefits. *Ibid.*

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 2019

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director