



## 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 12414-15 J.W.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA596090 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of her application for Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner benefits because she voluntarily quit two jobs and did not apply for temporary disability benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On September 23, 2015, the Honorable Richard McGill, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On September 24, 2015, the ALJ issued his Initial Decision reversing the Agency determination.

In his Initial Decision, the ALJ found that Petitioner voluntarily quit two jobs, without good cause, within 90 days of May 12, 2015, the date that she applied for WFNJ/GA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also N.J. A.C. 10:90-1.15. Moreover, Petitioner either refused or neglected to apply for temporary disability benefits, although she was instructed to do so by the New Jersey Department of Labor. See Initial Decision at 5; see also Exhibit P-3 and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(3)(requiring the applicant to apply, within 30 days, for any other assistance for which the applicant may be eligible). Based upon the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner is ineligible for WFNJ/GA benefits and, therefore, that the Agency's denial of Petitioner's application was proper and should be affirmed.

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, having made an independent evaluation of the record, I concur with the Initial Decision and 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's action is hereby AFFIRMED.

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

**OCT 29 2015**

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Natasha Johnson  
Director