



## State of New Jersey

### DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development  
P.O. Box 716  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Chris Christie  
*Governor*

Kim Guadagno  
*Lt. Governor*

Elizabeth Connolly  
*Acting Commissioner*

Natasha Johnson  
*Director*  
Tel (609) 588-2400

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 16765-15 L.J.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C107455 (GLOUCESTER COUNTY DIV. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of an extension of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner an extension of EA benefits contending that she had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 20, 2015, the Honorable John S. Kennedy, 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 Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families recipient, who has received 26 months of EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2. The record further shows that Petitioner has previously received two extreme hardship extensions. *Ibid.* Accordingly, the ALJ found that Petitioner had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions, and therefore, was not eligible for an extension of EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

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.

By way of comment, the Agency shall refer the Petitioner to the Social Services for the Homeless ("SSH") and any other programs or resources which may assist her with her needs.

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

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

**DEC 29 2015**

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Natasha Johnson  
Director