



## 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 14026-15 R.T.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C106780 (GLOUCESTER COUNTY DIV. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's sanctioning of her Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") benefits. The Agency sanctioned Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits due to non-compliance with her Individual Responsibility Plan ("IRP"). Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On October 16, 2015, the Honorable John S. Kennedy, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On October 29, 2015, the ALJ issued his Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. Based upon the evidence presented in the matter, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner had failed to fully comply with the terms of her IRP and engage in the required work activity. See Initial Decision at 3. Specifically, Petitioner missed a total of 15 days of her work activity in June and July of 2015, without good cause, and was sanctioned accordingly. *Ibid.* Petitioner was unable to come back into compliance with her work activity until September 2015, and therefore, did not receive benefits for that month. *Id.* at 2. As such, the ALJ affirmed the sanction which thereby affected Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits for the month of September. *Id.* at 4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(d) and N.J.A.C. 10:90-4.13(a).

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed by either party.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the record in this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision and I concur with the ALJ's decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

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

NOV 17 2015

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

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Natasha Johnson  
Director