



## 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 7895-15 T.F.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C099042 (MERCER COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits because she failed to comply with her EA service plan ("SP"), without good cause. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On June 9, 2015, the Honorable Joseph A. Ascione, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On June 10, 2015, the ALJ issued his Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The ALJ found that Petitioner violated several SPs, without good cause. See Initial Decision at 4-5; see also Exhibits R-2, R-3, R-4, and R-5. Accordingly, the ALJ found that the Agency properly terminated Petitioner's EA benefits. Additionally, as a result of Petitioner's SP violation, she is ineligible for EA benefits for a period of six months, beginning May 31, 2015. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.6(a); see also Exhibit R-1 at 1.

No Exceptions to this 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.

**JUN 17 2015**

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

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Natasha Johnson  
Director