



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 16943-15 T.Y.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C245414 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of her application for Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner's application because her Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") closed due to a sanction from her failure to comply with a work activity. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On October 30, 2015, the Honorable Joan Bedrin Murray, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On November 2, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. Based upon the evidence presented in the matter, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner incurred a sanction for failing to comply with her work activity, which led to her WFNJ/TANF account, to close thus making her ineligible for EA. See Initial Decision at 3. Consequently, the ALJ found that Petitioner caused her own homelessness by allowing her case to close and applied a six month EA penalty. *Ibid.*; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(c)(3)(vi). I agree.

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.

As I agree with the ALJ that Petitioner caused her own homelessness, she is subject to an EA penalty and is ineligible for EA benefits for a period of six months from the effective date of denial, September 9, 2015. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(c)(3).

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

NOV 12 2015

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director