



## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

In the Matter of Nicholas Costin,  
Vineland Developmental Center,  
Department of Human Services

FINAL ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION  
OF THE  
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

CSC Docket No. 2025-385  
OAL Docket No. CSV 12138-24

ISSUED: JUNE 11, 2025

The appeal of Nicholas Costin, Human Services Assistant, Vineland Developmental Center, Department of Human Services, removal and resignation not in good standing, effective June 30, 2024, on charges, was before Administrative Law Judge Rebecca C. Lafferty (ALJ), who rendered her initial decision dismissing the matter on May 13, 2025. No exceptions were filed.

Having considered the record and the ALJ's initial decision, and having made an independent evaluation of the record, the Civil Service Commission, at its meeting on June 11, 2025, affirmed the ALJ's determination to dismiss the appeal.

ORDER

The Civil Service Commission finds that the action of the appointing authority in removing and resigning the appellant not in good standing was justified. The Commission therefore upholds that action and dismisses the appeal of Nicholas Costin.

This is the final administrative determination in this matter. Any further review should be pursued in a judicial forum.

DECISION RENDERED BY THE  
CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION ON  
THE 11<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF JUNE, 2025

*Allison Chris Myers*

Allison Chris Myers  
Chairperson  
Civil Service Commission

Inquiries  
and  
Correspondence

Nicholas F. Angiulo  
Director  
Division of Appeals and Regulatory Affairs  
Civil Service Commission  
P.O. Box 312  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0312

Attachment



**State of New Jersey**  
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

**INITIAL DECISION**

**DISMISSAL**

OAL DKT. NO. CSV 12138-2024

AGENCY DKT. NO. 2025-385

**IN THE MATTER OF NICHOLAS COSTIN,  
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES,  
VINELAND DEVELOPMENT CENTER.**

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**Nicholas Costin**, appellant, pro se

**Elizabeth Davies**, Deputy Attorney General, for respondent, Department of Human Services, Vineland Developmental Center (Matthew J. Platkin, Attorney General of New Jersey, attorney)

Record Closed: May 9, 2025

Decided: May 13, 2025

**BEFORE REBECCA C. LAFFERTY, ALJ:**

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY**

This matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), where it was filed on August 23, 2024, and first assigned to Administrative Law Judge Susan M. Scarola for a settlement conference. On or around February 5, 2025, this matter was reassigned to the undersigned Administrative Law Judge. Telephonic prehearing conferences were scheduled for March 10, 2025, April 7, 2025, and May 8, 2025. Notices

for these three telephonic prehearing conferences were mailed to the petitioner at the address of record and emailed. The notices included the following language:

If you do not participate in the prehearing conference, the file will be returned to the transmitting agency for appropriate action which may include imposition of the proposed penalty or granting the relief requested by the other party.

To date, the petitioner has not provided a request for an adjournment of any of the scheduled prehearing conferences or an explanation for his nonappearance for the same. Nor has this office received notice of legal representation on behalf of the petitioner. Therefore, I **CONCLUDE** that the petitioner has failed to appear and has abandoned his appeal.

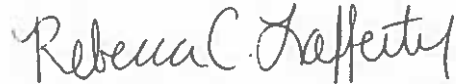
**ORDER**

It is hereby **ORDERED** that this appeal be **DISMISSED**.

I hereby **FILE** my initial decision with the **CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION** for consideration.

This recommended decision may be adopted, modified or rejected by the **CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION**, which by law is authorized to make a final decision in this matter. If the Civil Service Commission does not adopt, modify or reject this decision within forty-five days and unless such time limit is otherwise extended, this recommended decision shall become a final decision in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10.

Within thirteen days from the date on which this recommended decision was mailed to the parties, any party may file written exceptions with the **DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF APPEALS AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS, UNIT H, CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION, 44 South Clinton Avenue, PO Box 312, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0312**, marked "Attention: Exceptions." A copy of any exceptions must be sent to the judge and to the other parties.



May 13, 2025  
DATE

REBECCA C. LAFFERTY, ALJ

Date Received at Agency:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date Mailed to Parties:

\_\_\_\_\_

RCL/tat