

PHILIP D. MURPHY Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT PO BOX 716

CAROLE JOHNSON Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER Lt. Governor

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

NATASHA JOHNSON Director

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 14792-18 C.C.

AGENCY DKT. NO. S787579009 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of his Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 7, 2018, the Honorable Kimberly A. Moss. Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents into evidence. On November 8, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision reversing the Agency's determination.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have reviewed the ALJ's Initial Decision and the record, and I hereby ADOPT the ALJ's Initial Decision, and REVERSE the Agency's determination.

Here, the ALJ found that Petitioner did not receive proper notice that his WFNJ/GA benefits would be terminated, and the Agency failed to provide any evidence that it had sent Petitioner such notice. See Initial Decision at 2. The ALJ also found that Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits were reinstated in October 2018, and that, as a result of the Agency's termination of Petitioner's cash benefits, he had not received WFNJ/GA benefits for the months of July, August, and September 2018. Ibid.; see also Exhibit R-1. Because the Agency had failed to issue timely and adequate notice to Petitioner prior to terminating his WFNJ/GA benefits, as required by N.J.A.C. 10:90-9.1, I agree with the ALJ's conclusion that the Agency improperly terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits, and I hereby direct the Agency to provide Petitioner with retroactive WFNJ/GA benefits for the months of July, August, and September 2018. See Initial Decision at 3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-9.1.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED and the Agency's determination is REVERSED.



Officially approved final version.

Natasha Johnson

Director

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