



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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CAROLE JOHNSON
Commissioner

SHEILA Y. OLIVER
Lt. Governor

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 11459-18 I.S.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C054017018 (SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's termination of his Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits, on recertification. The Agency terminated Petitioner's SNAP benefits due to Petitioner's failure to provide documentation regarding his place of residence. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On August 28, 2018, the Honorable Sarah G. Crowley, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents into evidence.

On September 18, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. The record reflects that on March 26, 2018, Petitioner completed his application for SNAP benefits, on recertification. See Exhibit R-1 at 13-19. On July 5, 2018, B.H., the mother of one of Petitioner's children, completed her SNAP recertification application, listing the same address Petitioner had listed in his application for recertification of SNAP benefits. See Initial Decision at 3. On July 6, 2018, Petitioner was provided with a Request for Contact, indicating that the Agency required verification of Petitioner's current address. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-1 at 11. Petitioner testified that he is no longer living with B.H., that he is homeless, and that he sometimes stays with his mother. See Initial Decision at 2. Based on the record presented, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner had failed to provide the requested documentation regarding his residency, and affirmed the Agency's termination of Petitioner's SNAP benefits, on recertification. *Id.* at 4; see also Exhibit R-1 at 7-9, and N.J.A.C 10:87-2.15, -2.19(i)(1). I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

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.

By way of comment, Petitioner is without prejudice to reapply for SNAP benefits, but will need to provide all requested documentation.



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

Officially approved final version.

Natasha Johnson
Director

SEP 21 2018

