



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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NATASHA JOHNSON
Assistant Commissioner

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 **09917-24 A.J.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C062745005 (CAPE MAY COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") and Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits, contending that he had failed to provide required documentation to determine eligibility. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits, because he was not a WFNJ or Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") benefits recipient, and that he had failed to provide required documentation. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On July 30, 2024, the Honorable Kathleen M. Calemme, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On July 30, 2024, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the ALJ found that the Agency had properly issued "Notices of Verification" to Petitioner requiring that he provide certain documentation to the Agency by July 20, 2024, needed to determine his eligibility for WFNJ/GA and EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibits R-GA at 47, R-EA1 at 35, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5). Specifically, at issue here, Petitioner was to provide the Agency with all proofs of income and explanations of such income, as well as proof of eviction. See Initial Decision at 2-3; see also Exhibits R-GA at 47, R-EA1 at 35, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5), -6.3(a)(1)(ii), (c). The ALJ also found that, although Petitioner had provided some proofs of income, he had failed to provide all proofs required, and the proofs that he had provided were insufficient as he had failed to provide the further explanations of his income required by the Agency, needed to determine his eligibility for WFNJ/GA benefits. See Initial Decision at 2-3, 5-6; see also Exhibit R-GA at 49-93. Additionally, the ALJ found that Petitioner had provided proof of residency, but had failed to provide proof of eviction required to determine his eligibility for EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3-4, 6; see also Exhibits R-EA1 at 31-33, R-EA2. Further, the ALJ found that Petitioner had failed to provide any good cause reason for his failure to provide the required documentation. See Initial Decision at 4-5. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner was ineligible for WFNJ/GA benefits. See Initial Decision at 6-7; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(4), (5). The ALJ further concluded that Petitioner was ineligible for EA benefits on the basis that he was not a WFNJ or SSI benefits recipient, and also for failure to provide required eviction documentation. See Initial Decision at 6-7; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a), -6.3(a)(1)(ii), (c). Accordingly, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's denial of WFNJ/GA and EA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 6-7; see also Exhibits R-GA at 27-32, R-EA1 at 24-29. I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As Assistant Commissioner, 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.



By way of comment, Petitioner may reapply for WFNJ/GA and EA benefits, and is advised that eligibility for said benefits is contingent upon him providing all required, sufficient documentation to the Agency. See Initial Decision at 7; see also, N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.6(a), -2.2(a)(4), (5), (d), and -6.3(a)(1)(ii), (c).

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

Officially approved final version. August 15, 2024

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

