



State of New Jersey

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Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

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 **05542-24 N.R.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **S471126014 (MORRIS CO. OFFICE OF TEMP ASSISTANCE)**

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits, and the imposition of a six-month period of ineligibility for EA benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits, and imposed a six-month EA ineligibility penalty, contending that she had violated her EA service plan, thereby causing her own homelessness. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On June 18, 2024, the Honorable William J. Courtney, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. The record closed on June 25, 2024, after closing arguments of the parties. On July 31, 2024, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's termination of Petitioner's EA benefits, and its imposition of a six-month EA ineligibility penalty.

This office has been advised that the Agency is rescinding its March 26, 2024, termination of Petitioner's EA benefits, with effective date of April 26, 2024, and its imposition of a six-month EA ineligibility penalty. Therefore, as Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I hereby ORDER and DIRECT the Agency to provide Petitioner with EA benefits, so long as she continues to remain eligible for same. Further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and therefore, DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

Accordingly, Petitioner's appeal now being deemed moot, the matter is hereby DISMISSED.

Officially approved final version.

August 15, 2024

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

