



*State of New Jersey*

**PHILIP D. MURPHY**  
*Governor*

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**  
**DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT**  
PO BOX 716

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

**CAROLE JOHNSON**  
*Acting Commissioner*

**SHEILA Y. OLIVER**  
*Lt. Governor*

**NATASHA JOHNSON**  
*Director*  
Tel: (609) 588-2000

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 00072-18 B.P.**

**AGENCY DKT. NO. C411073004 (CAMDEN COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)**

Petitioner challenges the Respondent Agency's denial of retroactive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits for the period of June 24, 2017, to July 27, 2017. The Agency denied Petitioner SNAP benefits due to Petitioner's failure to provide requested documentation. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On March 29, 2018, the Honorable Susan L. Olgati, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing and took testimony.

On April 11, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that Petitioner applied for SNAP benefits on June 23, 2017. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-3. On June 28, 2017, following a telephone interview, Petitioner was sent a letter directing him to sign and date the "Food Stamp Application," and provide additional verification information by July 13, 2017, or advise the Agency why he could not do so. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibits R-4, R-5. Petitioner did not provide the verifying information by July 13, 2017, and on July 24, 2017, the Agency issued a notice denying Petitioner's application for SNAP benefits. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1. After receiving the denial, Petitioner supplied the requested verification documents on July 28, 2017. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-6. Thereafter, the Agency approved SNAP benefits to Petitioner effective July 28, 2017. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-7. Based on the record presented, and the testimony provided by Petitioner and the Agency, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner failed to provide the requested documentation in a timely manner, and affirmed the Agency's denial of Petitioner's request for retroactive SNAP benefits. See Initial Decision at 4-5; see also N.J.A.C. 10:87-2.27(e)(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 and the ALJ's Initial Decision in this matter and I concur with the ALJ's decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law.



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

Officially approved final version.

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Natasha Johnson

Director

APR 16 2018

