



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
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 06848-18 T.P.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C400980016 (PASSAIC COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's sanctioning of Work First New Jersey Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ TANF") benefits, and the termination of WFNJ TANF, Emergency Assistance ("EA"), and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), benefits. The Agency sanctioned Petitioner's WFNJ TANF benefits contending that she failed to comply with her WFNJ work activity. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ TANF, EA, and SNAP, benefits because Petitioner no longer resides in New Jersey ("NJ"). Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On May 15, 2018, the Honorable Muntaz Bari-Brown, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. The record remained open to allow Petitioner the opportunity to submit documents, and then closed on May 17, 2018. On May 17, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

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 AFFIRM the Agency's determination.

N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.11(a)(1), in relevant part states that, an applicant for, or recipient of, WFNJ TANF benefits shall reside in NJ.

N.J.A.C. 10:87-3.3(a), in relevant part states that, a SNAP household is considered a resident of the county in which they actually live.

Only WFNJ benefits recipients and Supplemental Security Income ("SSI") benefits recipients are eligible for EA benefits. See N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.2(a).

Here, the ALJ found, and the record substantiates, that Petitioner failed to attend her scheduled WFNJ work activity on four separate occasions, without good cause, from December 5, 2017, through December 8, 2017. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1, 11-13. Accordingly, the ALJ concluded that the Agency's sanctioning



of Petitioner's WFNJ TANF benefits was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-1 at 15. I agree.

Further, the ALJ found that the Agency had provided sufficient documentation to establish that Petitioner does not reside in NJ, and therefore, is ineligible for assistance benefits in NJ. See Initial decision at 2-3; see also Exhibit R-2 at 8-10, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.11(a)(1), -6.2(a), and N.J.A.C. 10:87-3.3(a). Accordingly, the ALJ also concluded that the Agency's termination of Petitioner's WFNJ TANF, EA, and SNAP, benefits was proper and must stand. See Initial Decision at 2-4; see also Exhibits R-2 at 11, and R-4. I also agree.

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

Officially approved final version.

MAY 24 2018

Natasha Johnson
Director

