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Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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SARAH ADELMAN Commissioner

TAHESHA L. WAY Lt. Governor 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

AMENDED DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HPW 12043-25 M.T.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C151347015 (OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

A Final Agency Decision ("FAD") was issued in this matter on October 2, 2025. This Amended FAD is being issued to acknowledge receipt of Exceptions timely filed by the Agency, but due to an apparent administrative error, not reviewed by this office prior to the issuance of the FAD in this case. This Amended FAD hereby supersedes the previously issued FAD in its entirety.

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits, contending that he refused appropriate shelter offered by the Agency. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On August 26, 2025, the Honorable Tricia M. Caliguire, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. The record was then held open for the submission of additional documents and closed on August 29, 2025. On September 3, 2025, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's determination.

Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed by the Agency on September 10, 2025.

This office has been advised that, as of at least September 10, 2025, Petitioner was being provided housing by another organization and as such, Petitioner was not homeless or imminently homeless, and therefore, no contested case exists. This office was further advised that, on September 11, 2025, Petitioner was incarcerated. Therefore, as Assistant Commissioner, Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I find that, as no contested case exists, this matter has now been rendered moot, and Petitioner's appeal may be DISMISSED.

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

Officially approved final version. October 15, 2025

Natasha Johnson Assistant Commissioner

