



State of New Jersey

PHILIP D. MURPHY
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

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

FINAL DECISION

OAL DKT. NO. HPW **17066-25 S.G.**

AGENCY DKT. NO. **C102271018 (SOMERSET COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)**

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 caused her own homelessness for failing to comply with Work First New Jersey ("WFNJ") program requirements. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On October 3, 2025, the Honorable Mary Ann Bogan, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a telephonic plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On October 6, 2025, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's termination of EA benefits and the imposition of a six-month EA ineligibility penalty.

This office has been advised that the Agency is rescinding its termination of EA benefits, effective September 30, 2025, and the 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. Further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and therefore, DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

By way of comment, Petitioner is advised to contact the Agency with respect to the steps necessary to come into compliance with the WFNJ program requirements, and that failure to do so will result in the termination of EA benefits.

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

Officially approved final version. October 16, 2025

Natasha Johnson
Assistant Commissioner

