

prior application had been denied earlier that year. Petitioner had been under conservatorship since 2014 which the Initial Decision noted encompassed four out of the five years that Monmouth County was required to examine. ID at 4. During that time, Petitioner had substantial assets. Monmouth County sent letters requesting information on four separate occasions before finally denying the case in January 2019. Petitioner continued to provide information until April 2019. However, Monmouth County noted that the continuing disclosures revealed a previously undisclosed account. R-21. Some items remained outstanding such as account statements from an account that showed significant changes in value.

The Initial Decision upholds the denial and I concur. Both the County Welfare Agency (CWA) and the applicant have responsibilities with regard to the application process. N.J.A.C. 10:71-2.2. Applicants must complete any forms required by the CWA; assist the CWA in securing evidence that corroborates his or her statements; and promptly report any change affecting his or her circumstance. N.J.A.C. 10:71-2.2(e).

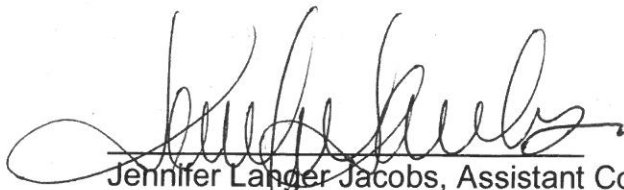
Petitioner's application remained open over 160 days and she was granted five extensions of time to provide the requested documentation R-4 and 7. Her assets were under conservatorship and many of the items had been requested in the first application R-4. The Initial Decision found it was not unreasonable for Monmouth County to have denied the case. The January denial letter advised that Petitioner should reapply for benefits; however, it is not clear if that was done.

I do MODIFY the Initial Decision regarding the discussion of undue hardship pursuant to N.J.A.C. 10:71-4.10(q)(1)(i). An undue hardship only pertains to the assessment of a transfer penalty. Petitioner's application was denied and she has not been assessed a transfer penalty. As such that regulation is inapplicable here.

THEREFORE, it is on this ^{14th} day of DECEMBER 2019,

ORDERED:

That the Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED as set forth above.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennifer Langer Jacobs", written over a horizontal line.

Jennifer Langer Jacobs, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Medical Assistance
and Health Services