

State of New Jersey DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

PHILIP D. MURPHY Governor

Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services P.O. Box 712 Trenton, NJ 08625-0712

SARAH ADELMAN Commissioner

TAHESHA L. WAY Lt. Governor

GREGORY WOODS Assistant Commissioner

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
AND HEALTH SERVICES

N.F.

PETITIONER,

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

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FINAL AGENCY DECISION

HORIZON, AND

DIVISION OF MEDICAL ASSISTANCE:

AND HEALTH SERVICES

OAL DKT. NO. HMA 16333-24

RESPONDENTS.

As Assistant Commissioner for the Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services (DMAHS), I have reviewed the record in this case, including the Initial Decision and the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) case file. Neither party filed exceptions in this matter. Procedurally, the time period for the Agency Head to file a Final Agency Decision is June 9, 2025, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-10, which requires an Agency Head to adopt, reject, or modify the Initial Decision within 45 days of receipt.

On November 20, 2024, the case was transmitted to the OAL for a hearing to challenge the denial of Personal Care Assistant Services. A hearing date was set for April 22, 2025. However, on April 9, 2025, respondent's counsel submitted a letter notifying the court that the petitioner had died on December 19, 2024. (C-1.) Subsequently, on April 16, 2025, counsel provided a Medicaid Eligibility Data printout indicating that the "CASE RECORD CLOSED DUE TO DEATH," dated December 19, 2024. (C-2.) No representative appeared for the petitioner at the scheduled hearing on April 22, 2025.

I agree with the ALJ that there is no longer a contested case before the OAL due to the unfortunate passing of the Petitioner in this matter. Questions that have become moot prior to judicial scrutiny are an improper subject for judicial review. <u>Anderson v. Sills</u>, 143 <u>N.J. Super</u> 432 (CL. Div. 1976).

Thus, I FIND that the Initial Decision correctly dismissed the appeal.

THEREFORE, it is on this 27th day of MAY 2025,

ORDERED:

That the Initial Decision is hereby ADOPTED.

Gregory Woods, Assistant Commissioner
Division of Medical Assistance and Health Co

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Division of Medical Assistance and Health Services