



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
P.O. Box 716
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Chris Christie
Governor

Kim Guadagno
Lt. Governor

Jennifer Velez
Commissioner

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director
Tel. (609) 588-2000

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 15176-14 M.T.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C209309 (HUDSON COUNTY DEPT OF FAM SVCS)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's termination of Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") benefits because she exhausted her cumulative 60-month lifetime limit. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law ("OAL") for a hearing. On January 14, 2015, the Honorable Kimberly A. Moss, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing. On January 15, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision which affirmed the Agency determination.

No exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the record in this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision, and having made an independent evaluation of the record, I ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in the Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency determination.

The record in this matter reveals that Petitioner appeared at the OAL hearing. See Initial Decision at 2. Prior to the hearing, however, Petitioner left and did not return to contest the termination of her WFNJ/TANF benefits under N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.3(a), thereby abandoning her appeal. *Ibid.*; see also N.J.A.C. 1:1-9.2(a). As such, the ALJ affirmed the Agency determination. I concur.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is ADOPTED and the Agency determination is AFFIRMED

MAR 03 2019

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Deputy Director