

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Chris Christie Governor

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Jennifer Velez Commissioner

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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 779-15 N.A.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C042287 (WARREN CO. DIV TEMP ASST & SOC. SVCS)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's denial of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a the Food Stamp Program, benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On February 18, 2015, the Honorable Leslie Z. Celentano, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents into evidence. On March 13, 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.

I agree with the ALJ's finding in this matter that Petitioner concededly does not meet any of the eligibility criteria for SNAP benefits set forth in N.J.A.C. 10:87-3.8, specifically including, but not limited to, N.J.A.C. 10:87-3.8(f)(6) because he is not "lawfully in the United States as a qualified alien, for at least five years."

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

MAR 2 3 2015

Signed Copy on File at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins Director