State of New Jersey
TMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
SION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Family Development
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Acting Commissioner

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Director
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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 19435-16 J.K.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C615093 (ESSEX DIV OF FAMILY ASST. & BENEFITS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's delayed disposition, and eventual denial, of his application for Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency delayed the disposition of Petitioner's application pending his compliance with the mandatory work requirement, and denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits because he failed to complete his 28-day work activity. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On January 26, 2017, the Honorable Jude-Anthony Tiscornia, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On February 8, 2017, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, Petitioner was denied WFNJ/GA benefits in October 2016, for failing to produce requested documents. See Initial Decision at 2. Thereafter, Petitioner reapplied for WFNJ/GA benefits on November 30, 2016, as he had agreed to do in his Withdrawal of Fair Hearing Request dated November 29, 2016. Ibid.; see also Exhibits R-1 and R-2. As a result, the Agency provided Petitioner with a written referral letter instructing him to report for his 28-day work activity on December 1, 2016. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-3. Petitioner admits that he failed to appear at the work activity appointment on December 1, 2016, and that he has not completed the mandatory work requirement. See Initial Decision at 3. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ found that the delayed disposition of Petitioner's

WFNJ/GA benefits application was required until Petitioner had completed his 28-day work activity. See Initial Decision at 5; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.2(f)(8) and -4.1(a)(1). In addition, the ALJ found that, because Petitioner has not complied with his mandatory work requirement, the Agency's denial of WFNJ/GA benefits to Petitioner was proper and should be affirmed. See Initial Decision at 5; see also Exhibit R-4. I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have reviewed the record and the ALJ's Initial Decision and, following an independent evaluation of the record, I agree with the ALJ's Initial Decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this matter.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is hereby ADOPTED and the Agency's action is hereby AFFIRMED.

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

MAR 0 9 2017

Natasha Johnson
Director