State of New Jersey
MENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
SION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
CN 716

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Family Development
P.O. Box 716
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Chris Christie
Governor

Kim Guadagno
Lt. Governor

Elizabeth Connolly
Acting Commissioner

Natasha Johnson
Director
Tel. (609) 588-2400

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 18891-16 D.C.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA151671 (HUNTERDON COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)

On December 13, 2016, Petitioner appealed the Respondent Agency's reduction of, and sanctioning of, her Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits, and the termination of her Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency reduced Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits contending that she was employable, and sanctioned her WFNJ/GA benefits contending that failed to comply with the required work activity. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits contending that she had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits, plus all available extensions. On December 23, 2016, Petitioner appealed the Respondent Agency's termination of her WFNJ/GA benefits. The Agency then terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits contending that she was not residing in Hunterdon County. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. By agreement of the parties, the two matters were consolidated. An initial hearing scheduled for January 10, 2017, was adjourned and rescheduled for January 24, 2017. On January 24, 2017, the Honorable Elia A. Pelios, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. The record was held open until February 16, 2017, in order to allow time for the submission of additional documents. On February 17, 2017, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's determination.

This office has been advised that the Agency is rescinding its reduction of, sanctioning of, and termination of, Petitioner's WFNJ/GA benefits. Additionally, the Agency has advised that it is rescinding its termination of Petitioner's EA benefits.

Therefore, as the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I hereby ORDER and DIRECT the Agency to provide Petitioner with WFNJ/GA and EA benefits, and, further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and I therefore DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

Accordingly, Petitioner's appeal now being deemed moot, the matter is hereby DISMISSED.

FEB 2 7 2017

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director