



State of New Jersey

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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 4538-17 S.V.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C225483007 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner challenges the correctness of Respondent Agency's calculation of her Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP") benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On April 25, 2017, the Honorable Mumtaz Bari-Brown, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents into evidence. The record remained open for receipt of additional documentation from the Agency and the record then closed on May 10, 2017.

On May 11, 2017, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision affirming the Agency's calculation of Petitioner's benefits. Here, Petitioner's household income consists of Supplemental Security Income ("SSI"), Retirement, Survivor's, and Disability Insurance ("RSDI"), and child support contributions for a total of \$1,575 per month. See Initial Decision at 2. Although the Agency incorrectly listed child support income of \$2,016 per month on the Interim Reporting Form ("IRF"), the Agency corrected this figure to reflect \$568 per month in its actual calculation of Petitioner's SNAP benefit amount. Id. at 2, 4; see also Exhibit R-1 at 7. Consequently, the ALJ concluded that the calculations submitted by the Agency were correct and that Petitioner was therefore entitled to \$16.00 in monthly SNAP benefits. See Initial Decision at 3-4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:87-6.16. 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 Initial Decision and having made an independent review of the record in this matter, I hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this matter.

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

Officially approved final version.

MAY 25 2017

Natasha Johnson
Director

