



State of New Jersey

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
PO BOX 716

ELIZABETH CONNOLLY
Acting Commissioner

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

NATASHA JOHNSON
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 17101-17 K.R.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C047820002 (BERGEN COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits when it discovered that he had been convicted of drug distribution. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On February 1, 2018, the Honorable John P. Scollo, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On February 6, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the ALJ found that Petitioner had been convicted of a drug distribution offense after August 22, 1996. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-2. Based on the foregoing, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner is ineligible for WFNJ/GA benefits. See Initial Decision at 4; see also Exhibit R-1 and N.J.A.C. 10:90-18.6(b)(1)(ii)(3). I agree.

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 ALJ's Initial Decision, and following an independent review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's final conclusion in this matter and hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

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

Officially approved final version.

MAR 12 2018

Natasha Johnson
Director

