



State of New Jersey

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DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
DIVISION OF FAMILY DEVELOPMENT
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TRENTON, NJ 08625-0716

NATASHA JOHNSON
Director

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 16625-18 S.W.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C071091003 (BURLINGTON COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits, contending that she failed to provide required documentation. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 26, 2018, the Honorable Carl V. Buck, III, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

Also on November 26, 2018, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. Here, the record reflects that the Agency requested that Petitioner provide it with certain documentation required to determine her eligibility for EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 3; see also Exhibit R-4. However, Petitioner failed to provide the requested documentation, and the Agency denied her application for EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 5; see also Exhibit R-1, and N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(a)(5), -6.1(c)(2). The ALJ found that Petitioner had failed to provide the required documentation, without good cause, and therefore, the Agency's denial of EA benefits to Petitioner was proper and must stand. Ibid. I agree. Moreover, the ALJ found that Petitioner resides with a relative and is not currently homeless or imminently homeless, and as such, she is also ineligible for EA benefits on that basis. See Initial Decision at 3, 5; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(c). I also 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.

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

Officially approved final version.

Natasha Johnson
Director

