



## State of New Jersey

### DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development

P.O. Box 716

TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Chris Christie  
*Governor*

Kim Guadagno  
*Lt. Governor*

Jennifer Velez  
*Commissioner*

Jeanette Page-Hawkins  
*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 7057-14 C.B.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C010432 (HUNTERDON COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's termination/denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") and the imposition of two 6-month penalties. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On July 15, 2014, the Honorable Susan M. Scarola, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents. On August 5, 2014, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision which affirmed the Agency determination.

Neither party submitted exceptions.

As Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I independently reviewed the record and hereby ADOPT the Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency determination.

Petitioner receives Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families.

The Agency appropriately terminated EA and imposed a six-month penalty because Petitioner's actions caused his eviction. N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.1(c)(3)(vi). The Agency contends, and Petitioner readily concedes, that he destroyed the personal property of another tenant, regularly used an additional, unauthorized parking space and allowed his dog and frequently his girlfriend to live in his apartment. Under the circumstances, it is not necessary to review whether the Agency also appropriately imposed a concurrent penalty based upon Petitioner's alleged non-compliance with his service plan, or properly denied EA based upon the exhaustion of potentially available assistance.

A copy of the Initial and Final Decisions shall be forwarded to the Division of Child Protection and Permanency ("DCP&P") to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of Petitioner's child.

For the foregoing reasons, I ADOPT the Initial Decision and AFFIRM the Agency determination.

OCT - 8 2014

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

---

Jeanette Page-Hawkins  
Director