



## State of New Jersey

### DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development  
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Chris Christie  
*Governor*

Kim Guadagno  
*Lt. Governor*

Elizabeth Connolly  
*Acting Commissioner*

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 1298-15 D.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA390687 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits because he allegedly did not complete the 28-day work requirement through the Department of Labor and Workforce Development ("LWD"). Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On March 2, 2015, the Honorable Jeffrey A. Gerson, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On March 4, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision which reversed the Agency determination.

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 record in this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision, and having made an independent evaluation of the record, I ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in the Initial Decision and REVERSE the Agency determination.

I concur with the ALJ's finding that Petitioner presented documentary evidence that he completed the 28-day work requirement through the LWD on October 16, 2014. Initial Decision at 2. In the absence of any basis for the Agency's adverse action, I agree with the ALJ that Petitioner is eligible for WFNJ/GA benefits. *Ibid.* Therefore, Petitioner shall receive retroactive WFNJ/GA benefits to the date of the completed work requirement, October 16, 2014. N.J.A.C. 10:90-1.2(f)(8); -2.2(a)(2).

Accordingly, the Initial Decision is ADOPTED and the Agency determination is REVERSED.

APR 22 2019

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

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Natasha Johnson  
Director