



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Division of Family Development
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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 19501-15 D.R.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C051884 (SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's termination of her Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a the Food Stamp Program, benefits, and the sanctioning of her Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's SNAP, and sanctioned her WFNJ/GA benefits due to non-compliance with her work activity. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 28, 2015, the Honorable Bruce M. Gorman, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On January 5, 2016, the ALJ issued his Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. Based upon the evidence presented in the matter, the ALJ concluded that Petitioner had not provided good cause for failing to attend the required work activity that, absent a Med-1 form, she was required to comply with. See Initial Decision at 2. Petitioner testified she asked her physician to send a MED-1 form to the Agency and believed she was not required to attend her work activity until the MED-1 was sent. *Ibid.* The ALJ concluded that Petitioner should have attended the work activity until the MED-1 form was delivered and accepted by the Agency. *Id.* at 3. As such, the ALJ affirmed the sanction which thereby affected Petitioner's WFNJ/GA and SNAP benefits. *Ibid.*; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.2(d) and N.J.A.C. 10:87-10.16(a)(1). I agree.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed by either party.

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 I concur with the ALJ's decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

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

JAN 15 2016

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Natasha Johnson
Director