



*State of New Jersey*

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Division of Family Development  
P.O. Box 716  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

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*Governor*

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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 9330-14 G.D.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA437159 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA"). Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On August 19, 2014, the Honorable Michael Antoniewicz, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents. On August 21, 2014, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision which reversed 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 REVERSE the Agency determination.

The Agency denied WFNJ/GA because Petitioner allegedly entered a disqualifying guilty plea for distribution of a controlled dangerous substance in 2003. N.J.A.C. 10:90-18.6(b). There is sufficient credible evidence the individual identified in the online database accessed by the Agency has the same first and last names as Petitioner, but other distinguishing personal identifiers. There is no evidence Petitioner is otherwise ineligible for WFNJ/GA.

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

OCT 31 2014

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

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Jeanette Page-Hawkins  
Director