

## State of New Jersey

## **DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Chris Christie Governor

Kim Guadagno Lt. Governor Division of Family Development P.O. Box 716 TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Elizabeth Connolly Acting Commissioner

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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 12857-15 H.P.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C108551 (BURLINGTON COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's termination of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's EA benefits contending that she had exhausted her lifetime limit of EA benefits. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 12, 2015, the Honorable Lisa James-Beavers, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents. On December 3, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's determination.

This office has been advised that the Agency is rescinding its termination of Petitioner's EA benefits. Therefore, as the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I hereby ORDER and DIRECT the Agency to provide Petitioner with EA benefits, and, further, I find that this matter has now been rendered moot, and I therefore DISMISS Petitioner's appeal.

As the record indicates that the Petitioner has an open case with the Division of Child Protection and Permanency, ("DCP&P") a copy of the Initial and Final Decisions shall be forwarded to DCP&P to ensure the health and safety of Petitioner's child.

Accordingly, Petitioner's appeal now being deemed moot, the matter is hereby DISMISSED.

Signed Copy on File at DFD, BARA

JAN 1 1 2016

Natasha Johnson Director