



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 13920-14 J.B.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C036558 (CAPE MAY COUNTY BD. OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of her application for Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner's application for benefits because it contends that she submitted two conflicting letters of residency for the same time frame, thus constituting submission of false information. Because the Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 3, 2014, the Honorable Bruce M. Gorman, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents into evidence.

On November 3, 2014, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's decision. The ALJ found that, based upon the weight of the evidence presented, Petitioner had reasonably explained her "nomadic existence" between two different addresses and that the facts presented would not disqualify Petitioner from receiving EA benefits. See Initial Decision at 4.

Neither party filed exceptions to the Initial Decision.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have considered the ALJ's Initial Decision and following an independent review of the record, I concur with the ALJ's decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in this matter.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is hereby ADOPTED and the Agency's action is hereby REVERSED.

NOV 17 2014

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director