



## 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 18680-15 J.P.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA494518 (OCEAN COUNTY BOARD OF SOC. SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of his application for an extension of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits in the form of housing placement. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits, because it determined that he had exhausted his lifetime limit of EA benefits, and did not meet the eligibility criteria for a further extension under the EA extreme hardship provision. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On December 29, 2015, the Honorable Ronald W. Reba, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On December 29, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The record shows that Petitioner has exhausted his lifetime limit of EA benefits. See Initial Decision 3; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(a). The record also shows that Petitioner applied for an extension of EA benefits under the extreme hardship provision, but provided no proof to support his claim. *Ibid.*; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-6.4(b) and Exhibit R-4. The ALJ found that Petitioner did not meet the eligibility criteria for an extreme hardship extension. See Initial Decision 3. Accordingly, the ALJ concluded, and I agree, that the Agency properly denied Petitioner EA benefits. *Ibid.*

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

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 final conclusion in this matter and hereby ADOPT the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

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

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

**JAN 12 2016**

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Natasha Johnson  
Director