



**State of New Jersey**

**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Division of Family Development  
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TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

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*Acting Commissioner*

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*Director*  
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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 12386-15 K.D.

AGENCY DKT. NO. S442213 (BERGEN COUNTY BD. 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 Temporary Rental Assistance ("EA/TRA"). The Agency denied Petitioner's application because he failed to provide necessary documents. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On September 15, 2015, the Honorable Kelly J. Kirk, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), attempted to hold a plenary hearing and take testimony. However, Petitioner abandoned his request for a hearing. Therefore, on September 28, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision dismissing Petitioner's appeal with prejudice.

In the Initial Decision, the ALJ noted that Petitioner and an Agency representative appeared at the hearing. See Initial Decision at 2. At that time, Petitioner abandoned the hearing, declined to have a hearing held on the record, and also refused to sign a withdrawal therefrom. *Ibid.*

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were filed.

As the Director of the Division of Family Development, Department of Human Services, I have reviewed the record in this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision and, having made an independent evaluation of the record, I concur with the Initial Decision and hereby adopt same.

Accordingly, the Initial Decision in this matter is hereby ADOPTED and the Petitioner's appeal is hereby DISMISSED with prejudice.

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

**NOV 06 2015** \_\_\_\_\_  
Natasha Johnson  
Director