



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 6573-14 O.M.

AGENCY DKT. NO. S463512 (MORRIS CO. OFFICE OF TEMP ASSISTANCE)

Petitioner appeals from Respondent Agency's reduction of his Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program ("SNAP"), f/k/a Food Stamps, benefits, and termination of his Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") benefits. The Agency reduced Petitioner's SNAP benefits and terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits due to a change in the composition of the household. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On July 24, 2014, the Honorable Joan Bedrin Murray, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On August 7, 2014, the ALJ issued her Initial Decision affirming the Agency's determination. The ALJ noted that Petitioner's minor child had moved out of state, leaving Petitioner as the sole member of the assistance unit, and thereby warranting the termination of WFNJ/TANF, and reduction in SNAP, benefits. See Initial Decision at 3-4. The ALJ further stated that Petitioner did not clarify, during his testimony, how much the child might be at his residence during vacations, and as such, future WFNJ/TANF eligibility would be for the Agency to determine if Petitioner reapplied. See Initial Decision at 4.

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 record in this matter and the ALJ's Initial Decision and I concur with the ALJ's decision and hereby adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law in this matter.

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

AUG 19 2014

Signed Copy on File
at DFD, BARA

Jeanette Page-Hawkins
Director