



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 16824-15 P.H.

AGENCY DKT. NO. C016435 (CUMBERLAND COUNTY BD OF SOC SVCS.)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's termination of her Work First New Jersey/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families ("WFNJ/TANF") benefits. The Agency terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits because it determined that Petitioner's assistance unit ("AU") no longer included an eligible child. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 25, 2015, the Honorable W. Todd Miller, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On December 9, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The record shows that Petitioner, a WFNJ/TANF benefits recipient, and that her AU consists of Petitioner and one child ("N.B."), of whom Petitioner has legal custody. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 19-20. Additionally, the record shows that in 2015, the Agency discovered that N.B. was living in a different municipality from that where Petitioner resided, and was enrolled in the school system in that other municipality. See Initial Decision at 2; see also Exhibit R-1 at 1 and 11. The ALJ found that there were conflicting records regarding N.B.'s residence, and it was not clear whether Petitioner and N.B. were living together and functioning as one economic unit. See Initial Decision at 2 and 4; see also N.J.A.C. 10:90-2.7(a)(1). Accordingly, the ALJ concluded that the Agency properly terminated Petitioner's WFNJ/TANF benefits. *Id.* 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 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

DEC 30 2015

Natasha Johnson
Director