



## 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 15202-15 S.N.

AGENCY DKT. NO. GA478946 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Work First New Jersey/General Assistance ("WFNJ/GA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner WFNJ/GA benefits contending that Petitioner failed to provide the requested documentation required to determine her WFNJ/GA eligibility. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On November 9, 2015, the Honorable Mumtaz Bari-Brown, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony, and admitted documents.

On December 1, 2015, the ALJ issued an Initial Decision, reversing the Agency's determination. The ALJ found that Petitioner made a good faith effort to provide the Agency with all necessary information to clarify her status for Unemployment Insurance Benefits ("UIB"), when she provided the Agency with a UIB printout showing that she had zero benefits available to her, indicating that she did not qualify for UIB. Accordingly, the ALJ found that the Agency's denial of Petitioner's WFNJ/GA application was improper, on that basis.

No Exceptions to the Initial Decision were received.

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 REVERSED.

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

DEC 29 2015

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Natasha Johnson  
Director