



**DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Division of Family Development  
P.O. Box 716  
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08625

Chris Christie  
*Governor*

Kim Guadagno  
*Lt. Governor*

Elizabeth Connolly  
*Acting Commissioner*

Natasha Johnson  
*Director*  
Tel. (609) 588-2400

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 7354-15 S.S.

AGENCY DKT. NO. V027441 (ESSEX COUNTY DIVISION OF WELFARE)

Petitioner appeals from the Respondent Agency's denial of Emergency Assistance ("EA") benefits. The Agency denied Petitioner EA benefits because she is not homeless or in imminent danger of homelessness. Because Petitioner appealed, the matter was transmitted to the Office of Administrative Law for a hearing. On May 26, 2015, the Honorable Caridad F. Rigo, Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ"), held a plenary hearing, took testimony and admitted documents.

On May 27, 2015, the ALJ issued her Initial Decision, affirming the Agency's determination. The record indicates that Petitioner is not homeless or imminently homeless, nor had she provided the court with appropriate documentation of an actual or imminent eviction. See Initial Decision at 2-3. Accordingly, the ALJ found that Petitioner was not eligible for EA benefits. Additionally, the ALJ found that Petitioner had not established that her apartment was uninhabitable, as she had not reported the matter to the appropriate municipal building code enforcement authorities and obtained the appropriate documentation. *Id.* at 3.

No Exceptions to this 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.

JUN 04 2015

*Signed Copy on File*  
at DFD, BARA

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Natasha Johnson  
Director