BEFORE THE EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD 6200 Park Avenue, Suite 100 Des Moines, Iowa 50321-1270 eab.iowa.gov

DARRYL K AUSTIN	
	: APPEAL NUMBER: 24B-UI-05408
Claimant	: ALJ HEARING NUMBER: 24A-UI-05408
and	EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD
	: DECISION
CASEY'S MARKETING CO	:
	:
Employer	:

SECTION: 10A.601 Employment Appeal Board Review

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The notice of hearing in this matter was mailed June 10, 2024. The notice set a hearing for June 24 at 10:00 a.m. The Claimant did not appear for or participate in the hearing. The reason the Claimant did not appear is because the morning of his hearing he was evacuated from his home due to flooding. The Claimant was evacuated without any of his personal property and did not have access to the notice of hearing.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 10A.601(4) (2015) provides:

4. Appeal board review. The appeal board may on its own motion affirm, modify, or set aside any decision of a administrative law judge on the basis of the evidence previously submitted in such case, or direct the taking of additional evidence, or may permit any of the parties to such decision to initiate further appeals before it. The appeal board shall permit such further appeal by any of the parties interested in a decision of an administrative law judge and by the representative whose decision has been overruled or modified by the administrative law judge. The appeal board shall review the case pursuant to rules adopted by the appeal board. The appeal board shall promptly notify the interested parties of its findings and decision.

Here, the Claimant did not participate in the hearing through no fault of the their own. The Claimant did not participate because they were in the middle of a natural disaster. Although the administrative law judge entered a default decision based on the Claimant's failure to appear at the hearing, the Board finds that the Claimant provided good cause for their nonparticipation. For this reason, the matter will be remanded for another hearing before an administrative law judge.

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DECISION:

The decision of the administrative law judge dated June 25, 2024, is not vacated and remains in force unless and until the Department makes a differing determination pursuant to this remand. This matter is remanded to an administrative law judge who shall conduct a hearing following due notice. After the hearing, the administrative law judge shall issue a decision which provides the parties appeal rights.

When you receive the Notice of Hearing, please read and follow the instructions carefully. If you do not receive a Notice of Hearing within fifteen days of the date on this decision, you must call the Unemployment Insurance Appeal Bureau to get information about the new hearing.

James M. Strohman

Myron R. Linn

Ashley R. Koopmans

SRC/mes DATED AND MAILED JULY 19, 2024