BEFORE THE EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD

Lucas State Office Building Fourth floor Des Moines, Iowa 50319

:

KYLE N STOOS

HEARING NUMBER: 14B-UI-08420

Claimant,

:

and

EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD DECISION

STREAM INTERNATIONAL INC

Employer.

SECTION: 10A.601 Employment Appeal Board Review

DECISION

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The notice of hearing in this matter was mailed August 20, 2014. The notice set a hearing for September 3, 2014. The Employer contacted the agency and provided a number at which he could be reached for the hearing. On the day of the hearing, however, the Employer did not appear for or participate in the hearing. The reason the Employer did not appear is because Employer did not answer the administrative law judge's call. The Employer was involved in a Fact-finding Interview that was scheduled shortly before the administrative law judge's hearing. The Employer informed the deputy of this fact, but the Interview lasted past the scheduled start time of the hearing. By the time the Employer completed the Interview, it was too late to participate in the hearing.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 10A.601(4) (2011) 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 Employer did not participate in the hearing through no fault of the Employer. The Employer complied with the notice instructions, but was unavailable to take the call to participate because he was participating in another agency proceeding (Fact-finding Interview). The Interview exceeded the start time of the hearing and the Employer was precluded from participating in the hearing. We conclude that the Employer has established good cause for his nonparticipation. For this reason, the matter will be remanded for another hearing before an administrative law judge.

DECISION:

The decision of the administrative law judge dated September 3, 2014 is not vacated. This matter is remanded to an administrative law judge in the Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau. The administrative law judge shall conduct a hearing following due notice. After the hearing, the administrative law judge shall issue a decision which provides the parties appeal rights.

Kim D. Schmett
Ashley R. Koopmans

AMG/fnv