

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

VICTORIA STAFFORD
Claimant

APPEAL 14A-UI-10793-H2T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 08/10/14
Claimant: Appellant (2)**

Iowa Code § 96.4(3) – Able and Available
871 IAC 24.2(1)e – Failure to Report

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed an appeal from the October 6, 2014 (reference 04) unemployment insurance decision that denied benefits. After due notice was issued a telephone hearing was held on November 5, 2014. Claimant participated. Department's Exhibit D-1 was entered and received into the record.

ISSUE:

Did the claimant fail to report as directed?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant was mailed a notice to provide additional information to her local office about her indication during the filing of her weekly claim that she had refused a suitable offer of work. The Agency's own records indicate that the claimant supplied a written response that was received by the agency on September 18, 2014 but apparently not routed to the fact finder. The claimant did not fail to report as directed.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant did not fail to report as directed.

Iowa Code § 96.4-3 provides:

An unemployed individual shall be eligible to receive benefits with respect to any week only if the department finds that:

3. The individual is able to work, is available for work, and is earnestly and actively seeking work. This subsection is waived if the individual is deemed partially unemployed, while employed at the individual's regular job, as defined in section 96.19,

subsection 38, paragraph "b", unnumbered paragraph 1, or temporarily unemployed as defined in section 96.19, subsection 38, paragraph "c". The work search requirements of this subsection and the disqualification requirement for failure to apply for, or to accept suitable work of section 96.5, subsection 3 are waived if the individual is not disqualified for benefits under section 96.5, subsection 1, paragraph "h".

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)e provides:

e. In order to maintain continuing eligibility for benefits during any continuous period of unemployment, an individual shall report as directed to do so by an authorized representative of the department. If the individual has moved to another locality, the individual may register and report in person at a workforce development center at the time previously specified for the reporting.

The method of reporting and the payment of benefits, provided the individual is otherwise eligible, shall be on a biweekly basis by mail if the claimant files a Form 60-0151.

The method of reporting shall be weekly if a voice response continued claim is filed, unless otherwise directed by an authorized representative of the department. An individual who files a voice response continued claim will have the benefit payment automatically deposited weekly in the individual's financial institution's account or be paid by the mailing of a warrant on a biweekly basis.

In order for an individual to receive payment by direct deposit, the individual must provide the department with the appropriate bank routing code number and a checking or savings account number.

The department retains the ultimate authority to choose the method of reporting and payment.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.23(11) provides:

Availability disqualifications. The following are reasons for a claimant being disqualified for being unavailable for work.

(11) Failure to report as directed to workforce development in response to the notice which was mailed to the claimant will result in the claimant being deemed not to meet the availability requirements.

The claimant did report via written statement that was misdirected by the agency. She did not fail to report as directed. Benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

DECISION:

The October 6, 2014 (reference 04) decision is reversed. The claimant did not fail to report as directed. Benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible.

Teresa K. Hillary
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

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