

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

68-0157 (9-06) - 3091078 - EI

KENT POWELL
Claimant

APPEAL NO: 11A-UI-06138-BT

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

OC: 08/30/09
Claimant: Appellant (1)

Iowa Code § 96.3-7 - Recovery of Benefit Overpayment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Kent Powell (claimant) appealed an unemployment insurance decision dated April 27, 2011, reference 06, which held that he was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$3,516.00 as a result of an administrative law decision dated December 11, 2009 which was not appealed. After a hearing notice was mailed to the party's last-known address of record, a telephone hearing was held on May 24, 2011. The claimant participated in the hearing. Based on the evidence, the arguments of the party and the law, the administrative law judge enters the following findings of fact, reasoning and conclusions of law, and decision.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant was overpaid \$3,516.00 in unemployment insurance benefits for the 12-week period ending November 21, 2009.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The overpayment issue in this case was created by an administrative law decision that denied benefits. There was no appeal filed and the decision has become final. The employer did participate in the fact-finding interview. The claimant received unemployment insurance benefits for the 12-week period ending November 21, 2009.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code § 96.3-7, as amended in 2008, provides:

7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits.
 - a. If an individual receives benefits for which the individual is subsequently determined to be ineligible, even though the individual acts in good faith and is not otherwise at fault, the benefits shall be recovered. The department in its discretion may recover the overpayment of benefits either by having a sum equal to the overpayment deducted from

any future benefits payable to the individual or by having the individual pay to the department a sum equal to the overpayment.

b. (1) If the department determines that an overpayment has been made, the charge for the overpayment against the employer's account shall be removed and the account shall be credited with an amount equal to the overpayment from the unemployment compensation trust fund and this credit shall include both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5. However, provided the benefits were not received as the result of fraud or willful misrepresentation by the individual, benefits shall not be recovered from an individual if the employer did not participate in the initial determination to award benefits pursuant to section 96.6, subsection 2, and an overpayment occurred because of a subsequent reversal on appeal regarding the issue of the individual's separation from employment. The employer shall not be charged with the benefits.

(2) An accounting firm, agent, unemployment insurance accounting firm, or other entity that represents an employer in unemployment claim matters and demonstrates a continuous pattern of failing to participate in the initial determinations to award benefits, as determined and defined by rule by the department, shall be denied permission by the department to represent any employers in unemployment insurance matters. This subparagraph does not apply to attorneys or counselors admitted to practice in the courts of this state pursuant to section 602.10101.

The administrative law judge concludes that the claimant has been overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$3,516.00 pursuant to Iowa Code § 96.3-7 as the administrative law decision that created the overpayment decision has become final.

DECISION:

The unemployment insurance decision dated April 27, 2011, reference 06, is affirmed. The claimant was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$3,516.00.

Susan D. Ackerman
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

sda/css