IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

JOSHUA HOWE

Claimant

APPEAL 22A-UI-07245-JD-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 02/14/21

Claimant: Appellant (2)

PL116-136, Sec. 2104(f)(2) – Overpayment of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

On March 22, 2022, claimant Joshua Howe appealed a representative's decision dated March 17, 2022 (reference 02), that concluded the claimant was overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation ("FPUC") benefits as a result of a disqualification decision. After a hearing notice was mailed to the claimant's last-known address of record, a telephone hearing was held on May 10, 2022, and was consolidated with the hearing for appeal 22A-UI-07243-JD-T. Claimant Joshua Howe participated and testified. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative record.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant is overpaid FPUC benefits.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant filed for and has received FPUC benefits in the gross amount of \$2,100.00 for the seven-week period ending April 3, 2021. On April 20, 2021, Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) issued a decision (reference 01) that allowed claimant UI benefits. The claimant's separation from his employer was not disqualifying and he was allowed benefits. This overpayment decision was issued in error.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the following reasons the administrative law judge concludes the claimant was not overpaid FPUC benefits for the period in question.

PL116-136, Sec. 2104 provides, in pertinent part:

(b) Provisions of Agreement

- (1) Federal pandemic unemployment compensation.--Any agreement under this section shall provide that the State agency of the State will make payments of regular compensation to individuals in amounts and to the extent that they would be determined if the State law of the State were applied, with respect to any week for which the individual is (disregarding this section) otherwise entitled under the State law to receive regular compensation, as if such State law had been modified in a manner such that the amount of regular compensation (including dependents' allowances) payable for any week shall be equal to
- (A) the amount determined under the State law (before the application of this paragraph), plus
- (B) an additional amount of \$600 (in this section referred to as "Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation").

. . . .

- (f) Fraud and Overpayments
- (2) Repayment. --In the case of individuals who have received amounts of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to which they were not entitled, the State shall require such individuals to repay the amounts of such Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to the State agency...

Section 203 of the Continued Assistance for Unemployed Workers Act of 2020 provides in pertinent part:

- (a) IN GENERAL. Section 2104(e) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9023(e)) is amended to read as follows: . . .
- "(e) APPLICABILITY. An agreement entered into under this section shall apply –
- (1) to weeks of unemployment beginning after the date on which such agreement is entered into and ending on or before July 31, 2020; and
- (2) to weeks of unemployment beginning after December 26, 2020 (or, if later, the date on which such agreement is entered into) and ending on or before March 14, 2021.".
- (b) AMOUNT. -
- (1) IN GENERAL. Section 2104(b) of the CARES Act (15 U.S.C. 9023(b)) is amended -
- (A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking "of \$600" and inserting "equal to the amount specified in paragraph (3)"; and
- (B) by adding at the end of the following new paragraph:
- "(3) AMOUNT OF FEDERAL PANDEMIC UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION.

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- "(A) IN GENERAL. The amount specified in this paragraph is the following amount:
- "(i) For weeks of unemployment beginning after the date on which an agreement is entered into under this section and ending on or before July 31, 2020, \$600.
- "(ii) For weeks of unemployment beginning after December 26, 2020 (or, if later, the date on which such agreement is entered into), and ending on or before March 14, 2021, \$300.".

The decision that allowed the claimant regular unemployment insurance benefits remains in effect. Because claimant is eligible for UI benefits, claimant is also eligible for FPUC benefits. Therefore, claimant has received FPUC benefits and he is entitled to those benefits. The administrative law judge concludes that claimant has not been overpaid FPUC benefits in the amount outlined in the findings of fact above. Claimant is not obligated to repay the FPUC benefits. This FPUC overpayment decision was issued in error.

DECISION:

The decision of the representative dated March 17, 2022, (reference 02) is reversed. Claimant has not been overpaid FPUC benefits in the amount of \$1,200.00, which was entitled to receive. The FPUC overpayment decision was issued in error. The claimant was not overpaid FPUC benefits.

Jason Dunn

Administrative Law Judge Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau 1000 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209 Fax (515) 478-3528

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May 31, 2022

Decision Dated and Mailed

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