

**BEFORE THE
EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD
Lucas State Office Building
Fourth floor
Des Moines, Iowa 50319**

PAMELA JOHNSON

Claimant,

and

MERCY HOSPITAL

Employer.

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HEARING NUMBER: 08B-UI-10788

**EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD
DECISION**

SECTION: 10A.601 Employment Appeal Board Review

D E C I S I O N

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The notice of hearing in this matter was mailed November 28, 2007. The notice set a hearing for December 10, 2007. The claimant did not appear for or participate in the hearing. The reason the claimant did not appear is because the claimant did not receive notice of the hearing since it was returned for insufficient address. In addition, the claimant was unable to participate because she was hospitalized from December 9th through the 11th for medical reasons and did not know the hearing was taking place.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 10A.601(4) (2005) provides:

5. 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 claimant. The claimant did not receive the Notice of Hearing in order to participate in the first place and was unavailable for medical reasons on the day of the hearing. In addition, the claimant provided medical documentation to corroborate her hospitalization. For this reason, we conclude good cause has been established and this matter will be remanded for another hearing before an administrative law judge.

DECISION:

The decision of the administrative law judge dated December 12, 2007 is not vacated. This matter is remanded to an administrative law judge in the Workforce Development Center, Appeals Section. 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.

Elizabeth L. Seiser

Mary Ann Spicer

DISSENTING OPINION OF JOHN A. PENO:

I respectfully dissent from the majority decision of the Employment Appeal Board; I would affirm the decision of the administrative law judge in its entirety.

John A. Peno

AMG/kjo