

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

PAUL E ROUSE
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 09A-UI-03396-NT

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

OC: 12/28/08
Claimant: Appellant (1)

Section 96.3-7 – Recovery of Overpayments

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant appealed a representative's decision dated February 26, 2009, reference 02, that concluded the claimant was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$211.00 for one week between January 4, 2009 and January 10, 2009 because vacation pay from Priority Envelope Inc. was incorrectly reported. A telephone hearing was scheduled for and held on March 30, 2009, pursuant to due notice. The claimant participated.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether Paul Rouse has been overpaid job insurance benefits.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge having considered all of the evidence in the record, finds: The overpayment issue in this case was created by a disqualification decision that has now been affirmed. (See appeal number 09A-UI-03395-NT). Mr. Rouse received vacation pay in the amount of \$571.28 upon being separated from Priority Envelope Inc. The employer designated the period that the vacation applied. Mr. Rouse was ineligible to receive benefits for the week ending January 5, 2009 as the amount equaled or exceeded his weekly benefit amount of \$348.00 for that week. The remaining \$211.00 in vacation pay allocated to the period between January 4, 2009 and January 10, 2009 by the employer was not deducted from the claimant's \$348.00 benefit amount for the week ending January 10, 2009. The claimant was thus overpaid benefits in the amount of \$211.00.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 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 is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$211.00 pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.3-7 as the disqualification decision that created the overpayment has now been affirmed and the record indicates that the claimant was overpaid \$211.00 for the week ending January 10, 2009 as that amount was not previously deducted by Workforce Development from the claimant's \$348.00 benefit amount for that week.

DECISION:

The decision of the representative dated February 26, 2009, reference 02, is affirmed. The claimant is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$211.00

Terence P. Nice
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

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