

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

JEFFREY H CASWELL
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 13A-UI-06694-HT

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

SIRWA
Employer

OC: 01/06/13
Claimant: Appellant (1)

Section 96.5(b) – Workers’ Compensation

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant, Jeffrey Caswell, filed an appeal from a decision dated May 22, 2013, reference 02. The decision disqualified him from receiving unemployment benefits. After due notice was issued a hearing was held by telephone conference call on July 11, 2013. The claimant participated on his own behalf. The employer, SIRWA, participated by Human Resources Manager Brenda Stanley.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant is receiving workers’ compensation temporary total disability payments.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Jeffrey Caswell was employed by SIRWA beginning April 10, 2012 as a part-time seasonal meter reader. He was injured in July 2012. He was laid off for the season and began to receive temporary total disability payments from January 9 through March 31, 2013.

His weekly disability payments are greater than his weekly unemployment benefit amount.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 96.5-5 provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits:

5. Other compensation. For any week with respect to which the individual is receiving or has received payment in the form of any of the following:

a. Wages in lieu of notice, separation allowance, severance pay, or dismissal pay.

b. Compensation for temporary disability under the workers' compensation law of any state or under a similar law of the United States.

c. A governmental or other pension, retirement or retired pay, annuity, or any other similar periodic payment made under a plan maintained or contributed to by a base period or chargeable employer where, except for benefits under the federal Social Security Act or the federal Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 or the corresponding provisions of prior law, the plan's eligibility requirements or benefit payments are affected by the base period employment or the remuneration for the base period employment. However, if an individual's benefits are reduced due to the receipt of a payment under this paragraph, the reduction shall be decreased by the same percentage as the percentage contribution of the individual to the plan under which the payment is made.

Provided, that if the remuneration is less than the benefits which would otherwise be due under this chapter, the individual is entitled to receive for the week, if otherwise eligible, benefits reduced by the amount of the remuneration. Provided further, if benefits were paid for any week under this chapter for a period when benefits, remuneration or compensation under paragraph "a", "b", or "c", were paid on a retroactive basis for the same period, or any part thereof, the department shall recover the excess amount of benefits paid by the department for the period, and no employer's account shall be charged with benefits so paid. However, compensation for service-connected disabilities or compensation for accrued leave based on military service, by the beneficiary, with the armed forces of the United States, irrespective of the amount of the benefit, does not disqualify any individual, otherwise qualified, from any of the benefits contemplated herein. A deduction shall not be made from the amount of benefits payable for a week for individuals receiving federal social security pensions to take into account the individuals' contributions to the pension program.

The claimant has received temporary total disability payments from a workers' compensation claim for 12 weeks. Under the provisions of the above Code section these are deductible from unemployment benefits.

Because the disability payments are greater than the unemployment benefits he would not be entitled to receive any of the weekly unemployment benefit amount.

DECISION:

The representative's decision of May 22, 2013, reference 02, is affirmed. Jeffrey Caswell is not eligible to receive unemployment benefits for the 12-week period from January 6 through March 30, 2013, because the disability benefits exceed the unemployment benefit amount.

Bonny G. Hendricksmeier
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bgh/pjs