

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

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**ALLEN E HOWDESHELL**

Claimant

and

**TENCO INDUSTRIES INC**

Employer

HEARING NUMBER: 20BUI-02540

**EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD  
DECISION**

**SECTION:** 10A.601 Employment Appeal Board Review

**DECISION**

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

The notice of hearing in this matter was initially mailed April 3, 2020. The notice set a hearing for April 17, 2020. An additional notice was mailed in an effort to reschedule the hearing due to the heavy backlog created by the COVID-19 pandemic. The Claimant responded to the first notice by providing a contact number and requesting a subpoena, but didn't respond to the subsequent notice. On the day of the hearing, the Claimant did not appear for or participate in the hearing. The reason the Claimant did not appear is because he did not receive a call to participate, or was unavailable at the number initially provided.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

Iowa Code section 10A.601(4) (2019) provides:

4. Appeal board review. The appeal board may on its own motion affirm, modify, or set aside any decision of an 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 due confusion in the process. Because the Claimant has shown his intention to follow through with the appeal, this matter shall be remanded for another hearing before an administrative law judge so that the Claimant may avail himself of his due process right.

UI-02540

We caution the Claimant that, barring exceptional circumstances, we will not again excuse a failure to call in a number where the Claimant could be reached.

**DECISION:**

The decision of the administrative law judge dated April 20, 2020 is not vacated and remains in force unless and until the Department makes a differing determination pursuant to this remand. 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.

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Ashley R. Koopmans

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James M. Strohman

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Myron R. Linn

AMG/fnv