# IN THE IOWA ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISION UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

**DAVID A SYKES** 

Claimant

**APPEAL 23A-UI-10772-SN-T** 

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

TERZO ENTERPRISES INCORPORATED

Employer

OC: 10/22/23

Claimant: Respondent (2)

Iowa Code § 96.5(2)a – Discharge for Misconduct

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.32(7) – Excessive Unexcused Absenteeism

Iowa Code § 96.3(7) – Recovery of Benefit Overpayment

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.10 – Recovery of Benefit Overpayment

### STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The employer, Terzo Enterprises Incorporated, filed an appeal from the November 8, 2023, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that granted benefits based upon the conclusion the claimant was discharged, but disqualifying misconduct was not shown. The parties were properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on December 6, 2023. The claimant participated. The employer participated through Human Resources Service Manager Ale Perez and Chief Operating Officer John Worthington. This administrative law judge postponed the hearing because the claimant had not received the employer's proposed exhibits.

The hearing was postponed to December 22, 2023, at 11:00 a.m. The employer participated through Human Resources Service Manager Ale Perez, and Chief Operating Officer John Worthington. The claimant participated. Exhibits A, B, C, D, E, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 9 were admitted. Official notice was taken of the agency records.

# **ISSUES:**

Whether the claimant's separation is disqualifying?

Whether the claimant was overpaid benefits? Whether he is excused from repaying benefits due to the employer's inadequate participation at factfinding?

#### FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds:

The claimant was employed full-time as a pallet repair worker from September 7, 2022, until this employment ended on February 27, 2023, when he was terminated. The claimant's immediate supervisor was Shift Supervisor James King.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Exhibit 6 was excluded due to not being relevant.

The employer has a Family Medical Leave Act ("FMLA") policy. It states that only employees who have worked more than 540 hours and with 12 months of continuous employment are eligible for leave. An employee first makes their request to the site manager who gives them the form to complete. The employee then takes that to their doctor to submit for final approval at the corporate level.

The employer has an attendance policy. The attendance policy states that an employee must call at least 30 minutes prior to the start of their shift if they are going to be absent or late. The attendance policy states that employees are required to notify their supervisor a minimum of five working days in advance of planned time off. It further states that approved time off will not count against an employee's attendance record. The employer provided a copy of the attendance policy. (Exhibit 8) The claimant acknowledged receipt of the attendance policy on July 22, 2023. The employer provided a copy of the claimant's acknowledgment. (Exhibit 9)

The claimant was scheduled to work Monday through Friday beginning at 5:00 a.m. with each having a 10-hour shift. He was scheduled intermittently when volume was high.

On January 5, 2023, the employer issued the claimant a coaching document for his attendance. This was because the claimant was late to work on December 21, 2022, December 27, 2022, and January 3, 2023. The employer provided a copy of this document. (Exhibit 1)

On February 6, 2023, the employer issued the claimant a first warning. This was because the claimant was absent on January 30, 2023. The employer provided a copy of this warning. (Exhibit 2) He also received a second warning on that same day for an absence occurring on February 3, 2023. The employer provided a copy of this warning. (Exhibit 3)

In early-February 2023, the claimant received FMLA certification paperwork from an agent of the employer. He never returned this completed certification paperwork to the employer.

On February 13, 2023, the employer issued the claimant a final warning regarding his attendance. This was because he was absent on February 10, 2023. The warning stated that if the claimant had further attendance incidents that he would be terminated. The claimant believed his job was in jeopardy when he received this warning.

The claimant was absent on February 28, 2023. The claimant did not call in prior to this shift.

The claimant was absent on March 1, 2023. The claimant did not call in prior to this shift.

The claimant was absent on March 2, 2023. The claimant did not call in prior to this shift.

The claimant was absent on March 6, 2023. The claimant did not call in prior to this shift.

On March 6, 2023, the employer terminated the claimant due to his excessive absenteeism. The employer provided internal paperwork showing that as his termination date. (Exhibit 7)

On March 7, 2023, the claimant's wife spoke with the University of Iowa's FMLA coordinator about obtaining leave for him so that he could help transport her to appointments for their children. The physician stated they could not fill out the paperwork being that it was merely a picture. They further stated that he could fax in the paperwork, or he could bring it at his next appointment. She confirmed that another potential medical provider recipient had not received the paperwork either. The claimant provided a copy of this text message. (Exhibit D)

Both parties acknowledge the claimant's brother was approved for FMLA despite not working for the company the requisite hours or length of time.

The following section of the findings of fact displays information necessary to resolve the overpayment issue:

The claimant received \$5,008.00 in unemployment insurance benefits after this separation.

On November 1, 2023, Iowa Workforce Development Department sent a notice of factfinding informing both parties of an interview scheduled at 9:15 a.m. on November 7, 2023. The claimant participated in the fact-finding. The employer did not participate because it did not receive the notice of factfinding before the date of the interview. The employer receives notification from postage when a piece of correspondence is delivered and this notification was sent on November 7, 2023, the same day it was retrieved from the mailbox.

### **REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

The administrative law judge concludes the claimant was discharged from employment due to excessive absenteeism. The claimant need not repay the benefits he received because the employer did not participate in the fact-finding. The Unemployment Insurance Fund will pay this overpayment because the employer did not participate due to no fault of its own. Benefits are denied.

The decision in this case rests, at least in part, on the credibility of the witnesses. It is the duty of the administrative law judge as the trier of fact in this case, to determine the credibility of witnesses, weigh the evidence and decide the facts in issue. *Arndt v. City of LeClaire*, 728 N.W.2d 389, 394-395 (lowa 2007). The administrative law judge may believe all, part or none of any witness's testimony. *State v. Holtz*, 548 N.W.2d 162, 163 (lowa App. 1996). In assessing the credibility of witnesses, the administrative law judge should consider the evidence using his or her own observations, common sense and experience. *Id.*. In determining the facts, and deciding what testimony to believe, the fact finder may consider the following factors: whether the testimony is reasonable and consistent with other believable evidence; whether a witness has made inconsistent statements; the witness's appearance, conduct, age, intelligence, memory and knowledge of the facts; and the witness's interest in the trial, their motive, candor, bias and prejudice. *Id*.

After assessing the credibility of the witnesses who testified during the hearing, reviewing the exhibits submitted by the parties, considering the applicable factors listed above, and using his own common sense and experience, the administrative law judge finds the employer's testimony as more credible than the claimant's testimony when they diverge as reflected in the findings of fact.

Specifically, the administrative law judge does not find credible the claimant was approved for FMLA leave by his supervisor on February 27, 2023. The claimant claimed that he was looking over Mr. King's shoulder as he sent an email on that day. Mr. King does not have any responsibilities regarding FMLA. The claimant's own exhibits disprove that he submitted the necessary paperwork. (Exhibits A, B, C, and D)

The administrative law judge will now decide whether the termination disqualifies him from benefits.

Iowa Code section 96.5(2)a provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits:

- 2. Discharge for misconduct. If the department finds that the individual has been discharged for misconduct in connection with the individual's employment:
- a. The individual shall be disqualified for benefits until the individual has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times the individual's weekly benefit amount, provided the individual is otherwise eligible.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.32(1)a provides:

Discharge for misconduct.

- (1) Definition.
- a. "Misconduct" is defined as a deliberate act or omission by a worker which constitutes a material breach of the duties and obligations arising out of such worker's contract of employment. Misconduct as the term is used in the disqualification provision as being limited to conduct evincing such willful or wanton disregard of an employer's interest as is found in deliberate violation or disregard of standards of behavior which the employer has the right to expect of employees, or in carelessness or negligence of such degree of recurrence as to manifest equal culpability, wrongful intent or evil design, or to show an intentional and substantial disregard of the employer's interests or of the employee's duties and obligations to the employer. On the other hand mere inefficiency, unsatisfactory conduct, failure in good performance as the result of inability or incapacity, inadvertencies or ordinary negligence in isolated instances, or good faith errors in judgment or discretion are not to be deemed misconduct within the meaning of the statute.

This definition has been accepted by the lowa Supreme Court as accurately reflecting the intent of the legislature. *Huntoon v. lowa Dep't of Job Serv.*, 275 N.W.2d 445, 448 (lowa 1979).

Iowa Code section 96.5(2)b, c and d provide:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits, regardless of the source of the individual's wage credits:

- 2. Discharge for misconduct. If the department finds that the individual has been discharged for misconduct in connection with the individual's employment:
- b. Provided further, if gross misconduct is established, the department shall cancel the individual's wage credits earned, prior to the date of discharge, from all employers.
- c. Gross misconduct is deemed to have occurred after a claimant loses employment as a result of an act constituting an indictable offense in connection with the claimant's employment, provided the claimant is duly convicted thereof

- or has signed a statement admitting the commission of such an act. Determinations regarding a benefit claim may be redetermined within five years from the effective date of the claim. Any benefits paid to a claimant prior to a determination that the claimant has lost employment as a result of such act shall not be considered to have been accepted by the claimant in good faith.
- d. For the purposes of this subsection, "misconduct" means a deliberate act or omission by an employee that constitutes a material breach of the duties and obligations arising out of the employee's contract of employment. Misconduct is limited to conduct evincing such willful or wanton disregard of an employer's interest as is found in deliberate violation or disregard of standards of behavior which the employer has the right to expect of employees, or in carelessness or negligence of such degree of recurrence as to manifest equal culpability, wrongful intent or evil design, or to show an intentional and substantial disregard of the employer's interests or of the employee's duties and obligations to the employer. Misconduct by an individual includes but is not limited to all of the following:
- (1) Material falsification of the individual's employment application.
- (2) Knowing violation of a reasonable and uniformly enforced rule of an employer.
- (3) Intentional damage of an employer's property.
- (4) Consumption of alcohol, illegal or nonprescribed prescription drugs, or an impairing substance in a manner not directed by the manufacturer, or a combination of such substances, on the employer's premises in violation of the employer's employment policies.
- (5) Reporting to work under the influence of alcohol, illegal or nonprescribed prescription drugs, or an impairing substance in an off-label manner, or a combination of such substances, on the employer's premises in violation of the employer's employment policies, unless the individual if compelled to work by the employer outside of scheduled or on-call working hours.
- (6) Conduct that substantially and unjustifiably endangers the personal safety of coworkers or the general public.
- (7) Incarceration for an act for which one could reasonably expect to be incarcerated that result in missing work.
- (8) Incarceration as a result of a misdemeanor or felony conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (9) Excessive unexcused tardiness or absenteeism.
- (10) Falsification of any work-related report, task, or job that could expose the employer or coworkers to legal liability or sanction for violation of health or safety laws.

- (11) Failure to maintain any licenses, registration, or certification that is reasonably required by the employer or by law, or that is a functional requirement to perform the individual's regular job duties, unless the failure is not within the control of the individual.
- (12) Conduct that is libelous or slanderous toward an employer or an employee of the employer if such conduct is not protected under state or federal law.
- (13) Theft of an employer or coworker's funds or property.
- (14) Intentional misrepresentation of time worked or work carried out that results in the individual receiving unearned wages or unearned benefits.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.32(7) provides:

(7) Excessive unexcused absenteeism. Excessive unexcused absenteeism is an intentional disregard of the duty owed by the claimant to the employer and shall be considered misconduct except for illness or other reasonable grounds for which the employee was absent and that were properly reported to the employer.

Excessive absences are not considered misconduct unless unexcused. Absences due to properly reported illness cannot constitute work-connected misconduct since they are not volitional, even if the employer was fully within its rights to assess points or impose discipline up to or including discharge for the absence under its attendance policy. Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.32(7); Cosper, supra; Gaborit v. Emp't Appeal Bd., 734 N.W.2d 554 (Iowa Ct. App. 2007). Medical documentation is not essential to a determination that an absence due to illness should be treated as excused. Gaborit. supra. Excessive unexcused absenteeism is an intentional disregard of the duty owed by the claimant to the employer and shall be considered misconduct except for illness or other reasonable grounds for which the employee was absent and that were properly reported to the employer. Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.32(7) (emphasis added); see Higgins v. Iowa Dep't of Job Serv., 350 N.W.2d 187, 190, n. 1 (lowa 1984) holding "rule [2]4.32(7)...accurately states the law." The requirements for a finding of misconduct based on absences are therefore twofold. First, the absences must be excessive. Sallis v. Emp't Appeal Bd., 437 N.W.2d 895 (lowa 1989). The determination of whether unexcused absenteeism is excessive necessarily requires consideration of past acts and warnings. Higgins at 192. Second, the absences must be unexcused. Cosper at 10. The requirement of "unexcused" can be satisfied in two ways. An absence can be unexcused either because it was not for "reasonable grounds," Higgins at 191, or because it was not "properly reported," holding excused absences are those "with appropriate notice." Cosper at 10.

The determination of whether unexcused absenteeism is excessive necessarily requires consideration of past acts and warnings. The term "absenteeism" also encompasses conduct that is more accurately referred to as "tardiness." An absence is an extended tardiness, and an incident of tardiness is a limited absence. Absences related to issues of personal responsibility such as transportation, lack of childcare, and oversleeping are not considered excused. *Higgins v. Iowa Dep't of Job Serv.*, 350 N.W.2d 187 (Iowa 1984). Absences due to illness or injury must be properly reported in order to be excused. *Cosper v. Iowa Dep't of Job Serv.*, 321 N.W.2d 6 (Iowa 1982).

The record is uncontroverted that the claimant had four no-call/no-shows on March 6, 2023, March 2, 2023, March 1, 2023, and February 28, 2023, after receiving a final written warning on February 13, 2023. This is intentional misconduct. The claimant had no reasonable belief that

he was approved for leave regarding any of those dates. The attendance policy states that unless an employee has advanced approval for an absence that they must call the number to inform their supervisor of their absence at least 30 minutes before their shift. The claimant knowingly disregarded this rule.

As to the claimant's contention that his brother was given FMLA leave despite not meeting the requirements for a similar reason, this argument is not persuasive for several reasons. First, the claimant was terminated because he had four no-call / no-show incidents after receiving a final written warning. The record does not establish the claimant's brother had similar misconduct and was retained. Furthermore, the claimant was terminated for excessive absenteeism under lowa Code section 96.5(2)(d)(9) rather than lowa Code section 96.5(2)(d)(2) for knowingly violating a reasonably and uniformly applied rule. The Legislature could have added the qualifications of uniform application to discharges due to excessive absenteeism and it did not.

As to the claimant's theory that his discrimination complaint spurred his termination, there is nothing in the record to suggest that was the cause. Mere closeness of time of protected activity and the termination does not raise an inference of retaliation. Furthermore, the claimant's complaint is that the employer denied him FMLA leave and given that context, there can be no causation where the writing is already written in the four corners of the complaint. In other words, the termination and the FMLA denial are one and the same thing given the chain of no-call / no-shows, so it does not logically follow that his complaint caused his termination, at least not in a retaliatory sense. The administrative law judge offers no opinion regarding his complaint or any other legal dispute between these parties unrelated to the unemployment claim. Benefits are withheld.

The next issue is whether claimant has been overpaid benefits. Iowa Code § 96.3(7)a-b, 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) (a) 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. The employer shall not be relieved of charges if benefits are paid because the employer or an agent of the employer failed to respond timely or adequately to the department's request for information relating to the payment of benefits. This prohibition against relief of charges shall apply to both contributory and reimbursable employers.
- (b) 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.

(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.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.10 provides:

Employer and employer representative participation in fact-finding interviews.

- (1) "Participate," as the term is used for employers in the context of the initial determination to award benefits pursuant to lowa Code section 96.6, subsection 2, means submitting detailed factual information of the quantity and quality that if unrebutted would be sufficient to result in a decision favorable to the employer. The most effective means to participate is to provide live testimony at the interview from a witness with firsthand knowledge of the events leading to the separation. If no live testimony is provided, the employer must provide the name and telephone number of an employee with firsthand information who may be contacted, if necessary, for rebuttal. A party may also participate by providing detailed written statements or documents that provide detailed factual information of the events leading to separation. At a minimum, the information provided by the employer or the employer's representative must identify the dates and particular circumstances of the incident or incidents, including, in the case of discharge, the act or omissions of the claimant or, in the event of a voluntary separation, the stated reason for the quit. The specific rule or policy must be submitted if the claimant was discharged for violating such rule or policy. In the case of discharge for attendance violations, the information must include the circumstances of all incidents the employer or the employer's representative contends meet the definition of unexcused absences as set forth in 871—subrule 24.32(7). On the other hand, written or oral statements or general conclusions without supporting detailed factual information and information submitted after the fact-finding decision has been issued are not considered participation within the meaning of the statute.
- (2) "A continuous pattern of nonparticipation in the initial determination to award benefits," pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.6, subsection 2, as the term is used for an entity representing employers, means on 25 or more occasions in a calendar quarter beginning with the first calendar quarter of 2009, the entity files appeals after failing to participate. Appeals filed but withdrawn before the day of the contested case hearing will not be considered in determining if a continuous pattern of nonparticipation exists. The division administrator shall notify the employer's representative in writing after each such appeal.
- (3) If the division administrator finds that an entity representing employers as defined in lowa Code section 96.6, subsection 2, has engaged in a continuous pattern of nonparticipation, the division administrator shall suspend said

representative for a period of up to six months on the first occasion, up to one year on the second occasion and up to ten years on the third or subsequent occasion. Suspension by the division administrator constitutes final agency action and may be appealed pursuant to lowa Code section 17A.19.

(4) "Fraud or willful misrepresentation by the individual," as the term is used for claimants in the context of the initial determination to award benefits pursuant to lowa Code section 96.6, subsection 2, means providing knowingly false statements or knowingly false denials of material facts for the purpose of obtaining unemployment insurance benefits. Statements or denials may be either oral or written by the claimant. Inadvertent misstatements or mistakes made in good faith are not considered fraud or willful misrepresentation.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code section 96.3(7)"b" as amended by 2008 Iowa Acts, Senate File 2160.

The claimant received \$5,008.00 in unemployment insurance benefits after this separation.

Because the claimant's separation was disqualifying, benefits were paid to which he was not entitled. The unemployment insurance law provides that benefits must be recovered from a claimant who receives benefits and is later determined to be ineligible for benefits, even though the claimant acted in good faith and was not otherwise at fault. However, the overpayment will not be recovered when it is based on a reversal on appeal of an initial determination to award benefits on an issue regarding the claimant's employment separation if: (1) the benefits were not received due to any fraud or willful misrepresentation by the claimant and (2) the employer did not participate in the initial proceeding to award benefits. The benefits were not received due to any fraud or willful misrepresentation by the claimant.

Additionally, the employer did not participate in the fact-finding interview. As a result, the claimant is not obligated to repay to the agency the benefits he received.

The law also states that an employer is to be charged if "the employer failed to respond timely or adequately to the department's request for information relating to the payment of benefits. . ." lowa Code  $\S 96.3(7)(b)(1)(a)$ . Here, the employer did not receive notice of the fact-finding until the same day of the interview and only after the interview had occurred. Therefore, the employer is excused from participation in fact-finding. The claimant is also excused from repaying the benefits paid to him. Those funds will be paid by the Unemployment Compensation Fund.

## **DECISION:**

The November 8, 2023, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is REVERSED. The claimant was discharged from employment due to excessive, unexcused absenteeism. Benefits are withheld until such time as he has worked in and been paid wages for insured work equal to ten times his weekly benefit amount, provided he is otherwise eligible.

The claimant has been overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$5,008.00 but is not obligated to repay the agency those benefits. The employer did not participate in the fact-finding interview due to no fault of its own and its account shall not be charged. Rather, the overpayment should be charged to the fund.



Sean M. Nelson
Administrative Law Judge II
Iowa Department of Inspections & Appeals
Administrative Hearings Division – UI Appeals Bureau

<u>December 28, 2023</u> Decision Dated and Mailed

smn/scn

APPEAL RIGHTS. If you disagree with the decision, you or any interested party may:

1. Appeal to the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days of the date under the judge's signature by submitting a written appeal via mail, fax, or online to:

Employment Appeal Board 6200 Park Avenue Suite 100 Des Moines, Iowa 50321 Fax: (515)281-7191 Online: eab.iowa.gov

The appeal period will be extended to the next business day if the last day to appeal falls on a weekend or a legal holiday.

#### AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD SHALL STATE CLEARLY:

- 1) The name, address, and social security number of the claimant.
- 2) A reference to the decision from which the appeal is taken.
- 3) That an appeal from such decision is being made and such appeal is signed.
- 4) The grounds upon which such appeal is based.

An Employment Appeal Board decision is final agency action. If a party disagrees with the Employment Appeal Board decision, they may then file a petition for judicial review in district court.

2. If no one files an appeal of the judge's decision with the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days, the decision becomes final agency action, and you have the option to file a petition for judicial review in District Court within thirty (30) days after the decision becomes final. Additional information on how to file a petition can be found at Iowa Code §17A.19, which is online at <a href="https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf">https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf</a> or by contacting the District Court Clerk of Court <a href="https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/">https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/</a>.

**Note to Parties:** YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in the appeal or obtain a lawyer or other interested party to do so provided there is no expense to Workforce Development. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer, you may obtain the services of either a private attorney or one whose services are paid for with public funds.

**Note to Claimant:** It is important that you file your weekly claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

## **SERVICE INFORMATION:**

A true and correct copy of this decision was mailed to each of the parties listed.

DERECHOS DE APELACIÓN. Si no está de acuerdo con la decisión, usted o cualquier parte interesada puede:

1. Apelar a la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo dentro de los quince (15) días de la fecha bajo la firma del juez presentando una apelación por escrito por correo, fax o en línea a:

Employment Appeal Board 6200 Park Avenue Suite 100 Des Moines, Iowa 50321 Fax: (515)281-7191 Online: eab.iowa.gov

El período de apelación se extenderá hasta el siguiente día hábil si el último día para apelar cae en fin de semana o día feriado legal.

#### UNA APELACIÓN A LA JUNTA DEBE ESTABLECER CLARAMENTE:

- 1) El nombre, dirección y número de seguro social del reclamante.
- 2) Una referencia a la decisión de la que se toma la apelación.
- 3) Que se interponga recurso de apelación contra tal decisión y se firme dicho recurso.
- 4) Los fundamentos en que se funda dicho recurso.

Una decisión de la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo es una acción final de la agencia. Si una de las partes no está de acuerdo con la decisión de la Junta de Apelación de Empleo, puede presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el tribunal de distrito.

2. Si nadie presenta una apelación de la decisión del juez ante la Junta de Apelaciones Laborales dentro de los quince (15) días, la decisión se convierte en acción final de la agencia y usted tiene la opción de presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el Tribunal de Distrito dentro de los treinta (30) días después de que la decisión adquiera firmeza. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre cómo presentar una petición en el Código de Iowa §17A.19, que se encuentra en línea en https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf o comunicándose con el Tribunal de Distrito Secretario del tribunal https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/.

Nota para las partes: USTED PUEDE REPRESENTARSE en la apelación u obtener un abogado u otra parte interesada para que lo haga, siempre que no haya gastos para Workforce Development. Si desea ser representado por un abogado, puede obtener los servicios de un abogado privado o uno cuyos servicios se paguen con fondos públicos.

**Nota para el reclamante:** es importante que presente su reclamo semanal según las instrucciones, mientras esta apelación está pendiente, para proteger su derecho continuo a los beneficios.

# SERVICIO DE INFORMACIÓN:

Se envió por correo una copia fiel y correcta de esta decisión a cada una de las partes enumeradas.