

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

JAMES R STURMAN
Claimant

APPEAL 19A-UI-00611-DB-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 11/18/18
Claimant: Appellant (6)**

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.2(1)e – Re-employment Services
Iowa Code Ch. 17A – Iowa Administrative Procedure Act
Iowa Code Ch. 96 – Iowa Employment Security Act
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.19(3) – Claims Bureau Subsequent Action
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-26.11 - Motions

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant/appellant, James R. Sturman, filed an appeal from an unemployment insurance decision dated January 14, 2019 (reference 01) that determined he was not eligible for benefits effective January 6, 2019 for failing to report for a reemployment and eligibility assessment. A telephone hearing was scheduled to be held on February 8, 2019, at 2:00 p.m.

Prior to the hearing date, Iowa Workforce Development issued a favorable decision to the claimant, dated January 25, 2019 (reference 02) finding that claimant was eligible for unemployment insurance benefits effective January 6, 2019. This decision made the issue on appeal moot. Therefore, no testimony or additional evidence was necessary and the hearing scheduled for February 8, 2019 was cancelled.

ISSUE:

Should the appeal be dismissed as moot?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

These findings of fact are based on the pertinent agency documents relating to this claimant and his appeal. An unemployment insurance decision dated January 14, 2019 (reference 01) determined that the claimant was not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits effective January 6, 2019, because he failed to report for a reemployment and eligibility assessment. The claimant appealed this decision. Before a hearing was held, Iowa Workforce Development issued a favorable decision to the claimant, dated January 25, 2019 (reference 02) stating that he is eligible for unemployment insurance benefits effective January 6, 2019, as long as he meets all the other eligibility requirements. The agency representative asked that the appeal be dismissed as moot. This subsequent agency decision resolved the only issue on appeal in the claimant's favor, making the appeal moot.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Generally, courts and administrative tribunals do not decide issues when the underlying controversy is moot. *Rhiner v. State*, 703 N.W.2d 174, 176 (Iowa 2005). “A case is moot if it no longer presents a justiciable controversy because the issues involved are academic or nonexistent.” *Iowa Bankers Ass’n v. Iowa Credit Union Dep’t*, 335 N.W.2d 439, 442 (Iowa 1983).

Subsequent agency action in favor of the appellant made this appeal moot. The appeal of the original representative’s decision dated January 14, 2019 (reference 01) is dismissed as moot. The hearing scheduled for February 8, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. is cancelled.

DECISION:

The request to dismiss the appeal of the unemployment insurance decision dated January 14, 2019 (reference 01) is approved. The appeal is dismissed as moot.

The hearing scheduled on February 8, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. is cancelled.

Dawn Boucher
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

db/rvs