

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

CINDY R GRAUSE
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 11A-UI-05410-SWT

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

ROSENBOOM MACHINE & TOOL INC
Employer

**OC: 11/07/10
Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Section 96.5-1 - Voluntary Quit
Section 96.6-2 - Timeliness of Appeal

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant appealed an unemployment insurance decision dated March 31, 2011, reference 03, that concluded she voluntarily quit employment without good cause attributable to the employer. A telephone hearing was held on June 2, 2011. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. The claimant participated in the hearing. Craig Van Drunen participated in the hearing on behalf of the employer. Exhibits A-1 and A-2 were admitted into evidence at the hearing.

ISSUE:

Was the appeal in this case filed timely?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

An unemployment insurance decision was mailed to the claimant's last-known address of record on March 31, 2011. The decision concluded she had voluntarily quit employment without good cause attributable to the employer and stated the decision was final unless a written appeal was postmarked or received by the Appeals Section by April 10, 2011.

The claimant received the decision within the ten-day period for appealing the decision. She filed a written appeal on April 14, 2011, which is after the time period for appealing had expired. The claimant delayed in filing her appeal because she was waiting to get a doctor's statement.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The issue in this case is whether the claimant filed a timely appeal.

The law states that an unemployment insurance decision is final unless a party appeals the decision within ten days after the decision was mailed to the party's last known address. Iowa Code § 96.6-2.

The Iowa Supreme Court has ruled that appeals from unemployment insurance decisions must be filed within the time limit set by statute and the administrative law judge has no authority to review a decision if a timely appeal is not filed. Franklin v. IDJS, 277 N.W.2d 877, 881 (Iowa 1979); Beardslee v. IDJS, 276 N.W.2d 373 (Iowa 1979). In this case, the claimant's appeal was filed after the deadline for appealing expired.

The next question is whether the claimant had a reasonable opportunity to file an appeal in a timely fashion. Hendren v. IESC, 217 N.W.2d 255 (Iowa 1974); Smith v. IESC, 212 N.W.2d 471, 472 (Iowa 1973). The claimant had a reasonable opportunity to file a timely appeal. She admitted that she could have filed the appeal earlier but was waiting for something for her doctor.

The failure to file a timely appeal was not due to any Agency error or misinformation or delay or other action of the United States Postal Service, which under 871 IAC 24.35(2) would excuse the delay in filing an appeal. Since the appeal was not filed timely, there is no jurisdiction to make a decision on the merits of the appeal.

DECISION:

The unemployment insurance decision dated March 31, 2011, reference 03, is affirmed. The appeal in this case was not timely, and the unemployment insurance decision disqualifying the claimant from receiving benefits remains in effect.

Steven A. Wise
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

saw/css