

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

**SHARRIE L GODFREY**  
Claimant

**APPEAL NO. 08A-UI-11866-NT**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 08/03/08 R: 04**  
**Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Section 96.3-7 – Recovery of Overpayments

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

The claimant appealed a representative's decision dated December 12, 2008, reference 02, that concluded the claimant was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,267.00 as a result of a disqualification decision. A telephone hearing was held January 2, 2009, pursuant to due notice. The claimant did participate.

**ISSUE:**

At issue in this matter is whether Ms. Godfrey has been overpaid unemployment insurance benefits.

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

The administrative law judge, having considered all the evidence in the record, finds: The overpayment issue in this case was created by a disqualification decision that has now been affirmed. (See Appeal No. 08A-UI-09399-DWT)

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

Iowa Code section 96.3-7 provides:

7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits. 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.

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 administrative law judge concludes that the claimant is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,267.00 pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.3-7, as the disqualification decision that created the overpayment has now been affirmed. Although it is noted that the initial payment to Ms. Godfrey was sent to her prior to a fact-finding conference in this matter, the claimant nevertheless received benefits to which she is deemed not entitled. The Iowa Employment Security Act does not provide for or contemplate a forgiveness clause that would allow the administrative law judge to forgive the overpayment issue to Ms. Godfrey. As the claimant has received the overpayment in question, she is liable to repay that amount.

**DECISION:**

The representative's decision dated December 12, 2008, reference 02, is affirmed. The claimant is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,267.00.

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Terence P. Nice  
Administrative Law Judge

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Decision Dated and Mailed

kjw/kjw