

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

TAMARA A REITER

Claimant

JP SENIOR HEALTHCARE LLC

Employer

APPEAL 20A-UI-00044-AW-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

OC: 12/08/19

Claimant: Respondent (2R)

Iowa Code § 96.6(2) – Timeliness of Protest

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Employer filed an appeal from the December 27, 2019 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision that found employer's protest untimely. The parties were properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on January 24, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. Claimant did not participate. Employer participated through Heather Marsh, Director of Nursing, and Stacey Smith, Administrator. Official notice was taken of the administrative record.

ISSUE:

Whether employer filed a timely protest.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The Notice of Claim was mailed to Post Office Box 2246, Sioux City, Iowa on December 10, 2019. That was employer's correct business address on that date. Employer received the Notice of Claim on December 17, 2019. Employer completed and signed the Employer Statement of Protest on December 18, 2019. Employer submitted its protest to Iowa Workforce Development via facsimile on December 18, 2019. Employer did not receive an error message stating that the fax was not successful. The Notice of Claim lists a due date of December 20, 2019. Employer's Statement of Protest was received by Iowa Workforce Development on December 24, 2019. The claimant's separation from employment has not yet been the subject of a Benefits Bureau fact-finding interview.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes that employer's protest was timely.

Iowa Code § 96.6(2) provides:

2. Initial determination. A representative designated by the director shall promptly notify all interested parties to the claim of its filing, and the parties have ten days from the date of mailing the notice of the filing of the claim by ordinary mail to the last known address to protest payment of benefits to the claimant.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.35(1)(c) provides:

1. Except as otherwise provided by statute or by division rule, any payment, appeal, application, request, notice, objection, petition, report or other information or document submitted to the division shall be considered received by and filed with the division:

(c) If transmitted by any means other than [United States Postal Service or the State Identification Data Exchange System (SIDES)], on the date it is received by the division.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.35(2) provides:

2. The submission of any payment, appeal, application, request, notice, objection, petition, report or other information or document not within the specified statutory or regulatory period shall be considered timely if it is established to the satisfaction of the division that the delay in submission was due to division error or misinformation or to delay or other action of the United States postal service.

Employer submitted its Statement of Protest prior to the due date. Employer's protest is timely.

DECISION:

The December 27, 2019 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision is reversed. Employer's protest was timely.

REMAND:

The separation issue is remanded to the Benefits Bureau of Iowa Workforce Development for a fact-finding interview and unemployment insurance decision.

Adrienne C. Williamson
Administrative Law Judge
Unemployment Insurance Appeals Bureau
Iowa Workforce Development
1000 East Grand Avenue
Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0209
Fax (515)478-3528

Decision Dated and Mailed

acw/scn