# IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

**GUINNIVERE K BOHNSACK** 

Claimant

**APPEAL 22A-UI-01776-DB-T** 

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE **DECISION** 

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT **DEPARTMENT** 

OC: 03/29/20

Claimant: Appellant (5)

PL 116-136 Section 2104 – Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC)

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant/appellant filed an appeal from the December 14, 2021 (reference 02) unemployment insurance decision that found claimant was overpaid FPUC benefits in the amount of \$600.00 for one week ending July 4, 2020 in error as a duplicate payment. The claimant was properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on February 11, 2022. The claimant participated personally. The administrative law judge took administrative notice of the claimant's unemployment insurance benefits records. The hearing was consolidated with Appeal No. 22A-UI-01775-DB.

#### ISSUE:

Is the claimant overpaid FPUC benefits?

### FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Claimant filed for Federal PUA benefits and was approved effective March 29, 2020. Her PUA weekly gross benefit amount was \$203.00. She filed weekly-continued claims for the weeks between March 29, 2020 and July 25, 2020 (a 17 week period). Claimant was inadvertently paid gross PUA benefits of \$406.00 for the week-ending July 11, 2020 instead of the \$203.00 weekly benefit amount. Claimant was also inadvertently paid gross FPUC benefits of \$1,200.00 for the week-ending July 11, 2020 instead of the \$600.00 weekly benefit amount. This was due to a computer error on the part of Iowa Workforce Development.

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

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes as follows:

Iowa Code § 96.3(7)a 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.

(emphasis added).

PL116-136, Sec. 2104 provides, in pertinent part:

- (b) Provisions of Agreement
- (1) Federal pandemic unemployment compensation.--Any agreement under this section shall provide that the State agency of the State will make payments of regular compensation to individuals in amounts and to the extent that they would be determined if the State law of the State were applied, with respect to any week for which the individual is (disregarding this section) otherwise entitled under the State law to receive regular compensation, as if such State law had been modified in a manner such that the amount of regular compensation (including dependents' allowances) payable for any week shall be equal to
- (A) the amount determined under the State law (before the application of this paragraph), plus
- (B) an additional amount of \$600 (in this section referred to as "Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation").

. . . .

- (f) Fraud and Overpayments
- (2) Repayment.--In the case of individuals who have received amounts of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to which they were not entitled, the State shall require such individuals to repay the amounts of such Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation to the State agency...

This overpayment occurred through no fault of the claimant. Regardless of fault, claimant has received FPUC benefits to which she was not entitled. Therefore, the administrative law judge concludes that claimant has been overpaid FPUC benefits in the amount of \$600.00 for the one-week period ending July 11, 2020. Those benefits must be repaid unless a waiver is requested and granted. The claimant may file a written request to have this overpayment waived. Instructions for requesting a waiver of this overpayment can be found at: <a href="https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/unemployment-insurance-overpayment-and-recovery">https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/unemployment-insurance-overpayment-and-recovery</a>.

## **DECISION:**

The December 14, 2021 (reference 02) unemployment insurance decision is modified with no change in effect. The claimant was overpaid FPUC benefits in the amount of \$600.00 for the week-ending July 11, 2020 and not the week-ending July 4, 2020.

Dawn Boucher Administrative Law Judge

Jaun Moucher

March 4, 2022\_ Decision Dated and Mailed

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