

**BEFORE THE
EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD
Lucas State Office Building, 4TH Floor
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
Website: eab.iowa.gov**

TABIOKA G WEEKS

Claimant

: **APPEAL NUMBER:** 23B-UI-07331

: **ALJ HEARING NUMBER:** 23A-UI-07331

:

and

:

**EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD
DECISION**

:

REM IOWA COMMUNITY SVCS INC

:

:

Employer

:

SECTION: 10A.601 Employment Appeal Board Review

DECISION

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The notice of hearing in this matter was mailed July 28, 2023. The notice set a hearing for August 11 at 10:00 a.m. The Claimant did not appear for or participate in the hearing. The reason the Claimant did not appear is because they did not receive the Notice of Hearing. The Claimant did not know the hearing was taking place. Additionally, that decision determined that the Claimant who did not appear or participate in the hearing “defaulted pursuant to Iowa Code section 17A.12(3)...” and the previous decision remained in effect.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 10A.601(4) (2015) provides:

4. Appeal board review. The appeal board may on its own motion affirm, modify, or set aside any decision of a administrative law judge on the basis of the evidence previously submitted in such case, or direct the taking of additional evidence, or may permit any of the parties to such decision to initiate further appeals before it. The appeal board shall permit such further appeal by any of the parties interested in a decision of an administrative law judge and by the representative whose decision has been overruled or modified by the administrative law judge. The appeal board shall review the case pursuant to rules adopted by the appeal board. The appeal board shall promptly notify the interested parties of its findings and decision.

Here the Claimant did not participate in the hearing through no fault of their own. The Claimant did not participate because they did not receive the Notice of Hearing and did not know that a hearing was taking place. Although the administrative law judge entered a default decision based on the Claimant’s failure to appear at the hearing, the Board finds that the Claimant provided good cause for their nonparticipation. For this reason, the matter will be remanded for another hearing before an administrative law judge.

DECISION:

The decision of the administrative law judge dated August 14, 2023, is not vacated and remains in force unless and until the Department makes a differing determination pursuant to this remand. This matter is remanded to an administrative law judge who shall conduct a hearing following due notice. After the hearing, the administrative law judge shall issue a decision which provides the parties appeal rights.

Please note the way you appear at the hearing has changed. When you receive the Notice of Hearing, please read and follow the instructions carefully.

James M. Strohman

Ashley R. Koopmans

Myron R. Linn

SRC/fnv