

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

BRANDIE L COURTER
Claimant

APPEAL NO. 09A-UI-01671-NT

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 09/28/08 R: 02
Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Section 96.3-7 – Benefit Overpayment

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant appealed a representative's decision dated January 23, 2009, reference 04, that concluded the claimant was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$2,817.00 as the result of an unemployment insurance decision of an administrative law judge. A telephone hearing was scheduled for and held on February 23, 2009. The claimant participated.

ISSUE:

At issue in this matter is whether Brandie Courter has been overpaid job insurance benefits.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge having considered all of the evidence in the record, finds: That the overpayment issue in this case was created by the disqualification decision issued by an administrative law judge dated December 17, 2008. Ms. Courter appealed that decision to the Employment Appeal Board and by decision dated February 2, 2009 the Employment Appeal Board affirmed the administrative law judge's conclusion that the claimant's discharge was disqualifying. Because the claimant had received unemployment insurance benefits that she was determined to be not entitled to the claimant was held to be overpaid job insurance benefits for the nine weeks between October 12, 2008 and December 13, 2008 in the amount of \$2,817.00.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 96.3-7, as amended in 2008, 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.

b. (1) 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. However, provided the benefits were not received as the result of fraud or willful misrepresentation by the individual, benefits shall not be recovered from an individual if the employer did not participate in the initial determination to award benefits pursuant to section 96.6, subsection 2, and an overpayment occurred because of a subsequent reversal on appeal regarding the issue of the individual's separation from employment. The employer shall not be charged with the benefits.

(2) An accounting firm, agent, unemployment insurance accounting firm, or other entity that represents an employer in unemployment claim matters and demonstrates a continuous pattern of failing to participate in the initial determinations to award benefits, as determined and defined by rule by the department, shall be denied permission by the department to represent any employers in unemployment insurance matters. This subparagraph does not apply to attorneys or counselors admitted to practice in the courts of this states pursuant to section 602.10101.

The administrative law judge concludes that the claimant is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$2,817.00 pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.3-7 as the disqualification decision that created the overpayment decision has been affirmed by the Employment Review Board and no further appeal has been filed by the claimant.

DECISION:

The decision of the representative dated January 23, 2009, reference 04, is affirmed. The claimant is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$2,817.00.

Terence P. Nice
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

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