IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT Unemployment Insurance Appeals Section 1000 East Grand—Des Moines, Iowa 50319 DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE 68-0157 (7-97) – 3091078 - EI

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Appeal Number:06A-UI-02849-H2TOC:010806R:12Claimant:Respondent (4)

This Decision Shall Become Final, unless within fifteen (15) days from the date below, you or any interested party appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by submitting either a signed letter or a signed written Notice of Appeal, directly to the *Employment Appeal Board, 4th Floor—Lucas Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319.*

The appeal period will be extended to the next business day if the last day to appeal falls on a weekend or a legal holiday.

STATE CLEARLY

- 1. The name, address and social security number of the claimant.
- 2. A reference to the decision from which the appeal is taken.
- 3. That an appeal from such decision is being made and such appeal is signed.
- 4. The grounds upon which such appeal is based.

YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in this appeal or you may obtain a lawyer or other interested party to do so provided there is no expense to Workforce Development. If you wish to be represented by a lawyer, you may obtain the services of either a private attorney or one whose services are paid for with public funds. It is important that you file your claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

(Administrative Law Judge)

(Decision Dated & Mailed)

Section 96.6-2 – Timeliness of Protest Iowa Code Chapter 95 – Requalification

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The employer filed a timely appeal from the February 21, 2006, reference 02, decision that allowed benefits and found the protest untimely. After due notice was issued, a hearing was held by telephone conference call on March 30, 2006. The claimant did not participate. The employer did participate through Elena Grant, Assistant Manager. Department's Exhibit D-1 was received.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant's notice of claim was mailed to the employer's address of record on February 2, 2006. The

employer received the notice of protest on February 8, 2006. The employer did protest on February 16, 2006. The claimant has requalified for benefits since the separation from the employer.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code Section 96.6-2 provides in pertinent part:

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.

The administrative law judge concludes that the employer filed its protest within the time period prescribed by the Iowa Employment Security Law because they did send the notice of protest on February 9, 2006. The employer contends that any delay in getting the notice of protest to Iowa was due to the postal service. There was a one-week delay between the time the employer gave the letter of protest to the United States Post Office and the time the post office issued a postmark. This is sufficient evidence of intent to protest any potential charges to their account. The administrative law judge further concludes that the claimant has requalified for benefits since the separation from this employer. Accordingly, benefits are allowed and the account of the employer shall not be charged.

DECISION:

The February 21, 2006, reference 02, decision is modified in favor of the appellant. The employer has filed a timely protest, and the claimant has requalified for benefits since the separation. Benefits are allowed, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible. The account of the employer shall not be charged.

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