IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

GREG LACEY

Claimant

APPEAL 20A-UI-14994-DB-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 03/15/20

Claimant: Appellant (1)

lowa Code § 96.3(7) – Overpayment of Benefits PL 116-136 Sec 2104 – Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant/appellant filed an appeal from the November 4, 2020 (reference 03) unemployment insurance decision that found claimant was overpaid Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) benefits in the amount of \$7,200.00 for twelve weeks ending June 20, 2020. The claimant was properly notified of the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on January 20, 2021. 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. 20A-Ul-14992-DB-T and 20A-Ul-14993-DB-T.

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 an original claim for unemployment insurance benefits effective March 15, 2020. He was paid FPUC benefits in the amount of \$7,200.00 for twelve weeks ending June 20, 2020. A decision that disqualified him from being eligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits funded by the State of lowa was issued on or about June 25, 2020 (reference 01) and was affirmed in Appeal No. 20A-UI-14992-DB-T.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

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

lowa 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.

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...

In this case, the claimant received FPUC benefits but was not eligible for those benefits. This was because of the decision dated June 25, 2020 (reference 01) and affirmed in Appeal No. 20A-Ul-14992-DB-T. As such, the claimant is overpaid FPUC benefits in the amount of \$7,200.00 for twelve weeks ending June 20, 2020.

DECISION:

The November 4, 2020 (reference 03) unemployment insurance decision is affirmed. The claimant was overpaid FPUC benefits of \$7,200.00 for the twelve-week period ending June 20, 2020.

Jaun Boucher

Dawn Boucher Administrative Law Judge <u>January 29, 2021</u> Decision Dated and Mailed

db/scn

Note to Claimant

- If this decision determines you overpaid FPUC benefits and you disagree with this decision you may file an appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by following the instructions on the first page of this decision.
- If you do not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits funded by the State of lowa under state law, you may qualify for benefits under the Federal Pandemic Unemployment Assistance ("PUA") section of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act ("Cares Act") that discusses eligibility for claimants who are unemployed due to the Coronavirus.
- You will need to apply for PUA to determine your eligibility under the program.
 For additional information on how to apply for PUA go to: https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/pua-information.
- If you are denied regular unemployment insurance benefits funded by the State of Iowa and wish to apply for PUA, please visit: https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/pua-information and scroll down to "Submit Proof Here." You will fill out the questionnaire regarding the reason you are not working and upload a picture or copy of your fact-finding decision. Your claim will be reviewed for PUA eligibility. If you are eligible for PUA, you will also be eligible for Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC) until the program expires. Back payments PUA benefits may automatically be used to repay any overpayment of state benefits. If this does not occur on your claim, you may repay any overpayment by visiting: https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/unemployment-insurance-overpayment-and-recovery.
- If you have applied and have been approved for PUA benefits, this decision will **not** negatively affect your entitlement to PUA benefits.