

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU**

**MORGAN L TARR**  
Claimant

**A.W. COMPANIES INC**  
Employer

**APPEAL 21A-UI-24785-DH-T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**OC: 10/03/21**  
**Claimant: Appellant (6)**

Iowa Code § 96.6(2) - Timeliness of Appeal  
Iowa Code § 96.5(1) - Voluntary Quit  
Iowa Code § 96.5(2)a - Discharge for Misconduct

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

November 4, 2021, claimant, Morgan Tarr, filed an appeal from the October 22, 2021 (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision denied benefits, finding claimant was discharged on 09/07/21 for a disqualifying reason. Notices of hearing were mailed to the parties' last known addresses of record for a telephone hearing scheduled for January 6, 2022. Claimant participated. Employer, A.W. Companies Inc, participated through Sarah Bell. Judicial notice was taken of the administrative file.

**ISSUE:**

Is the Appeal Timely?

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having heard the testimony and reviewed the evidence in the record, the undersigned finds:

Claimant's appeal is dated November 4, 2021 and to be timely, needed to be filed on or before November 1, 2021. The decision was mailed to claimant's last known addresses, which is the same address she currently uses. Claimant timely received the decision on October 31, 2021. Claimant did not submit her appeal right away. Claimant stated she was in the middle of a move without internet access, but her address ultimately remained unchanged. Claimant offered no other reason for the appeal being past the deadline.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

The first issue to be considered in this appeal is whether the appellant's appeal is timely. The administrative law judge determines it is not.

Iowa Code § 96.6(2) provides, in pertinent part: "[u]nless the claimant or other interested party, after notification or within ten calendar days after notification was mailed to the claimant's last

known address, files an appeal from the decision, the decision is final and benefits shall be paid or denied in accordance with the decision.”

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.35(1) provides:

1. Except as otherwise provided by statute or by division rule, any payment, appeal, application, request, notice, objection, petition, report or other information or document submitted to the division shall be considered received by and filed with the division:

(a) If transmitted via the United States Postal Service on the date it is mailed as shown by the postmark, or in the absence of a postmark the postage meter mark of the envelope in which it is received; or if not postmarked or postage meter marked or if the mark is illegible, on the date entered on the document as the date of completion.

(b) If transmitted via the State Identification Data Exchange System (SIDES), maintained by the United States Department of Labor, on the date it was submitted to SIDES.

(c) If transmitted by any means other than [United States Postal Service or the State Identification Data Exchange System (SIDES)], on the date it is received by the division.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.35(2) provides:

2. The submission of any payment, appeal, application, request, notice, objection, petition, report or other information or document not within the specified statutory or regulatory period shall be considered timely if it is established to the satisfaction of the division that the delay in submission was due to division error or misinformation or to delay or other action of the United States postal service.

The Iowa Supreme Court has declared that there is a mandatory duty to file appeals from representatives' decisions within the time allotted by statute, and that the administrative law judge has no authority to change the decision of a representative if a timely appeal is not filed. *Franklin v. IDJS*, 277 N.W.2d 877, 881 (Iowa 1979). Compliance with appeal notice provisions is jurisdictional unless the facts of a case show that the notice was invalid. *Beardslee v. IDJS*, 276 N.W.2d 373, 377 (Iowa 1979); see also *In re Appeal of Elliott* 319 N.W.2d 244, 247 (Iowa 1982).

Appellant's delay was not due to an error or misinformation from the Department or due to delay or other action of the United States Postal Service. The decision was timely received at claimant's last known address. The appeal was not timely submitted. A good cause reason for the delay has not been established. The administrative law judge lacks jurisdiction (authority) to decide the other issue in this matter.

**DECISION:**

The October 22, 2021, (reference 01) unemployment insurance decision denying benefits remains in effect, as the appeal was not timely and the appeal is **DISMISSED**.



Darrin T. Hamilton  
Administrative Law Judge

January 31, 2022  
Decision Dated and Mailed

dh/mh