

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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

**NTEKOLO D MAMBULU**  
Claimant

**APPEAL NO. 09A-UI-01712-LT**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 05/11/08 R: 03  
Claimant: Appellant (1)**

Iowa Code § 96.3(7) – Recovery of Benefit Overpayment  
Iowa Code § 421.17(29) – Offset of State Income Tax Refund  
871 IAC 25.16 – Offset of State Income Tax Refund

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

The claimant filed an appeal from the January 30, 2009 reference 01, decision that gave notice that claimant's 2008 Iowa income tax refund was going to be withheld to apply to an overpayment of unemployment insurance benefits, which the claimant owed to Iowa Workforce Development, formerly known as Job Service. After due notice was issued, a hearing was scheduled to be held by telephone conference call on February 24, 2009. The claimant participated.

**ISSUE:**

The issue is whether the withholding of the claimant's state income tax refund to offset a prior overpayment of benefits is authorized.

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having reviewed the administrative record, the administrative law judge finds: A representative's decision dated October 28, 2004, reference 02 notified claimant of an overpayment related to his voluntarily leaving employment with HCM, Inc. The overpayment amount was \$398.00. The separation disqualification decision was affirmed by the administrative law judge (ALJ) decision dated November 24, 2004 decision, which has become final. The state treasurer has notified the Iowa Workforce Development Department that the claimant has an Iowa income tax refund for 2008 of at least \$50.00.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

The issue is whether the withholding of the Iowa income tax refund to recover the prior overpayment is valid. The administrative law judge concludes that it is.

Iowa Code § 421.17(29) sets forth a procedure whereby one state agency may obtain funds owed by a second state agency to an individual to apply to a debt, which that same individual

owes to the first state agency. 871 IAC 25.16 specifically authorizes the Iowa Workforce Development Department to withhold the state income tax refund owing to the claimant to apply to an overpayment of benefits which that same claimant owes to the Iowa Workforce Development Department so long as both amounts are at least \$50.00. The claimant owes the Iowa Workforce Development Department \$398.00 in benefits he received in 2004 to which he was not entitled and he has an Iowa income tax refund of at least \$50.00. Therefore, the Iowa Workforce Development Department is legally authorized to withhold that Iowa income tax refund up to the amount of the overpayment of benefits, which the claimant owes to the Iowa Workforce Development Department.

**DECISION:**

The representative's decision dated January 30, 2009 reference 01, is affirmed. The Iowa Workforce Development Department has legal authority to withhold the Iowa income tax refund owed to the claimant to apply to the overpayment of benefits, which that individual owes to the Iowa Workforce Development Department.

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Dévon M. Lewis  
Administrative Law Judge

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Decision Dated and Mailed

dml/pjs