

**IOWA DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND APPEALS  
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISION, UI APPEALS BUREAU**

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**ANDREA J TEDDER**  
Claimant

**IOWA WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**APPEAL 22A-UI-13514-S2-T**  
  
**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**OC: 03/29/20**  
**Claimant: Appellant (1)**

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Iowa Code § 96.6(2) – Timeliness of Appeal  
Iowa Code § 96.3-7 - Recovery of Overpayment of Benefits  
PL116-136, Sec. 2104(f)(2) – Overpayment of Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation  
PL 116-136, Sec. 2107 – Federal Pandemic Emergency Unemployment Compensation  
Iowa Code § 96.3(7) - Recovery of Benefit Overpayment – Lost Wages Assistance Program

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

The claimant Andrea J. Tedder appealed a representative's decision dated May 11, 2022, (reference 02), that concluded the claimant was overpaid regular state unemployment insurance, Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation (FPUC), and Lost Wages Assistance Program (LWAP) benefits as a result of a disqualification decision. After a hearing notice was mailed to the claimant's last-known address of record, a telephone hearing was held on July 20, 2022, and was consolidated with the hearing for appeal 22A-UI-13513-S2-T. The claimant participated personally. Department's Exhibit D-1 was received. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative record.

**ISSUE:**

Is claimant's appeal timely?

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having reviewed all of the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: A disqualification decision was mailed to claimant's last known address of record on May 11, 2022. The decision contained a warning that an appeal must be postmarked or received by the Appeals Bureau by May 21, 2022. The appeal was not filed until June 2, 2022, which is after the date noticed on the disqualification decision. Claimant cannot recall when she received the decision in the mail but stated she was having issues with receiving her mail from the post office. When the decision did arrive, one of claimant's children placed it with other items and claimant did not find it until after the appeal deadline passed.

On September 30, 2021, Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) issued a decision (reference 01) that denied claimant regular state unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. That decision has been affirmed. See 22A-UI-13513-S2-T. Claimant has received regular state unemployment insurance benefits in the gross amount of \$8,418.00 for the twenty-three-week period ending

October 17, 2020. Claimant has received FPUC benefits in the gross amount of \$8,400.00 for the fourteen-week period ending July 4, 2020. Claimant has received LWAP benefits in the gross amount of \$900.00 for the three-week period ending September 5, 2020.

### **REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant's appeal is untimely.

Iowa Code section 96.6(2) provides:

*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 representative shall promptly examine the claim and any protest, take the initiative to ascertain relevant information concerning the claim, and, on the basis of the facts found by the representative, shall determine whether or not the claim is valid, the week with respect to which benefits shall commence, the weekly benefit amount payable and its maximum duration, and whether any disqualification shall be imposed. The claimant has the burden of proving that the claimant meets the basic eligibility conditions of section 96.4. The employer has the burden of proving that the claimant is disqualified for benefits pursuant to section 96.5, except as provided by this subsection. The claimant has the initial burden to produce evidence showing that the claimant is not disqualified for benefits in cases involving section 96.5, subsection 10, and has the burden of proving that a voluntary quit pursuant to section 96.5, subsection 1, was for good cause attributable to the employer and that the claimant is not disqualified for benefits in cases involving section 96.5, subsection 1, paragraphs "a" through "h". Unless 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. If an administrative law judge affirms a decision of the representative, or the appeal board affirms a decision of the administrative law judge allowing benefits, the benefits shall be paid regardless of any appeal which is thereafter taken, but if the decision is finally reversed, no employer's account shall be charged with benefits so paid and this relief from charges shall apply to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

The ten calendar days for appeal begins running on the mailing date. The "decision date" found in the upper right-hand portion of the representative's decision, unless otherwise corrected immediately below that entry, is presumptive evidence of the date of mailing. *Gaskins v. Unempl. Comp. Bd. of Rev.*, 429 A.2d 138 (Pa. Comm. 1981); *Johnson v. Bd. of Adjustment*, 239 N.W.2d 873, 92 A.L.R.3d 304 (Iowa 1976).

The record in this case shows that more than ten calendar days elapsed between the mailing date and the date this appeal was filed. 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. Iowa Dep't of Job Serv.*, 277 N.W.2d 877, 881 (Iowa 1979). Compliance with appeal notice provisions is jurisdictional unless the facts of a case

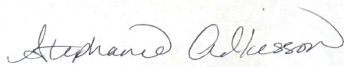
show that the notice was invalid. *Beardslee v. Iowa Dep't of Job Serv.*, 276 N.W.2d 373, 377 (Iowa 1979); see also *In re Appeal of Elliott*, 319 N.W.2d 244, 247 (Iowa 1982). The question in this case thus becomes whether the appellant was deprived of a reasonable opportunity to assert an appeal in a timely fashion. *Hendren v. Iowa Emp't Sec. Comm'n*, 217 N.W.2d 255 (Iowa 1974); *Smith v. Iowa Emp't Sec. Comm'n*, 212 N.W.2d 471, 472 (Iowa 1973). The record shows that the appellant did have a reasonable opportunity to file a timely appeal.

The failure to file a timely appeal within the time prescribed by the Iowa Employment Security Law was not due to any Iowa Workforce Development error or misinformation or delay or other action of the United States Postal Service. See Iowa Administrative Code rule 871-24.35(2). Accordingly, there is not good cause to treat the late appeal as a timely appeal. Because the appeal was untimely, the administrative law judge lacks jurisdiction to make a determination with respect to the nature of the appeal or to disturb the decision from which the claimant appealed. See *Beardslee v. IDJS*, 276 N.W.2d 373 (Iowa 1979) and *Franklin v. IDJS*, 277 N.W.2d 877 (Iowa 1979).

Even if the appeal was treated as timely, the underlying decision would be affirmed. The decision that denied claimant regular unemployment insurance benefits remains in effect. Because claimant is not eligible for UI benefits, she is also not eligible for FPUC and LWAP benefits. Therefore, claimant has received UI, FPUC, and LWAP benefits to which she was not entitled. The administrative law judge concludes that claimant has been overpaid UI, FPUC, and LWAP benefits in the amount outlined in the findings of fact above. Those benefits must be recovered in accordance with Iowa law.

#### **DECISION:**

The May 11, 2022, (reference 02) unemployment insurance decision is affirmed. The appeal in this case was not timely, and the decision of the representative remains in effect. In the alternative, claimant has been overpaid regular state unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$8,418.00, which must be repaid. Claimant has been overpaid FPUC benefits in the amount of \$8,400.00, which must be repaid. Claimant has been overpaid LWAP benefits in the amount of \$900.00, which must be repaid.



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Stephanie Adkisson  
Administrative Law Judge

September 13, 2022

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Decision Dated and Mailed

sa/ac

**NOTE TO CLAIMANT:**

- This decision determines you have been overpaid FPUC benefits. If you disagree with this decision, you may file an appeal by following the instructions above.
- You may also request a waiver of this overpayment. The written request must include the following information:
  1. Claimant name & address.
  2. Decision number/date of decision.
  3. Dollar amount of overpayment requested for waiver.
  4. Relevant facts that you feel would justify a waiver.
- The request should be sent to:

Iowa Workforce Development  
Overpayment waiver request  
1000 East Grand Avenue  
Des Moines, IA 50319

- This Information can also be found on the Iowa Workforce Development website at: <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/unemployment-insurance-overpayment-and-recovery>.
- If this decision becomes final and you are not eligible for a waiver, you will have to repay the benefits you received.

**APPEAL RIGHTS.** If you disagree with the decision, you or any interested party may:

1. Appeal to the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days of the date under the judge's signature by submitting a written appeal via mail, fax, or online to:

**Employment Appeal Board**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Floor – Lucas Building**  
**Des Moines, Iowa 50319**  
**Fax: (515)281-7191**  
**Online: [eab.iowa.gov](http://eab.iowa.gov)**

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.

**AN APPEAL TO THE BOARD SHALL 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.

An Employment Appeal Board decision is final agency action. If a party disagrees with the Employment Appeal Board decision, they may then file a petition for judicial review in district court.

2. If no one files an appeal of the judge's decision with the Employment Appeal Board within fifteen (15) days, the decision becomes final agency action, and you have the option to file a petition for judicial review in District Court within thirty (30) days after the decision becomes final. Additional information on how to file a petition can be found at Iowa Code §17A.19, which is online at <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> or by contacting the District Court Clerk of Court <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

**Note to Parties:** YOU MAY REPRESENT yourself in the appeal or 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.

**Note to Claimant:** It is important that you file your weekly claim as directed, while this appeal is pending, to protect your continuing right to benefits.

**SERVICE INFORMATION:**

A true and correct copy of this decision was mailed to each of the parties listed.

**DERECHOS DE APELACIÓN.** Si no está de acuerdo con la decisión, usted o cualquier parte interesada puede:

1. Apelar a la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo dentro de los quince (15) días de la fecha bajo la firma del juez presentando una apelación por escrito por correo, fax o en línea a:

**Employment Appeal Board  
4th Floor – Lucas Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319  
Fax: (515)281-7191  
En línea: [eab.iowa.gov](http://eab.iowa.gov)**

El período de apelación se extenderá hasta el siguiente día hábil si el último día para apelar cae en fin de semana o día feriado legal.

**UNA APELACIÓN A LA JUNTA DEBE ESTABLECER CLARAMENTE:**

- 1) El nombre, dirección y número de seguro social del reclamante.
- 2) Una referencia a la decisión de la que se toma la apelación.
- 3) Que se interponga recurso de apelación contra tal decisión y se firme dicho recurso.
- 4) Los fundamentos en que se funda dicho recurso.

Una decisión de la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo es una acción final de la agencia. Si una de las partes no está de acuerdo con la decisión de la Junta de Apelación de Empleo, puede presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el tribunal de distrito.

2. Si nadie presenta una apelación de la decisión del juez ante la Junta de Apelaciones Laborales dentro de los quince (15) días, la decisión se convierte en acción final de la agencia y usted tiene la opción de presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el Tribunal de Distrito dentro de los treinta (30) días después de que la decisión adquiera firmeza. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre cómo presentar una petición en el Código de Iowa §17A.19, que se encuentra en línea en <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/code/17A.19.pdf> o comunicándose con el Tribunal de Distrito Secretario del tribunal <https://www.iowacourts.gov/iowa-courts/court-directory/>.

**Nota para las partes:** USTED PUEDE REPRESENTARSE en la apelación u obtener un abogado u otra parte interesada para que lo haga, siempre que no haya gastos para Workforce Development. Si desea ser representado por un abogado, puede obtener los servicios de un abogado privado o uno cuyos servicios se paguen con fondos públicos.

**Nota para el reclamante:** es importante que presente su reclamo semanal según las instrucciones, mientras esta apelación está pendiente, para proteger su derecho continuo a los beneficios.

**SERVICIO DE INFORMACIÓN:**

Se envió por correo una copia fiel y correcta de esta decisión a cada una de las partes enumeradas.