

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS & APPEALS  
DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS  
Lucas State Office Building  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

**Appeal Number:** 06-IWDUI-099  
**OC:** 11/27/05  
**Claimant:** Appellant (1)

**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, 4<sup>th</sup> 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.

DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

**EDWIN K BUTTS**  
**903 KEO WAY DRIVE**  
**KEOSAUQUA IA 52565**

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.

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**  
**INVESTIGATION AND RECOVERY**  
**1000 EAST GRAND AVENUE**  
**DES MOINES IA 50319-0209**

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 the Department . 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.

DAN ANDERSON, IWD

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(Administrative Law Judge)

April 28, 2006

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(Decision Dated & Mailed)

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Section 96.16-4 - Misrepresentation  
Section 96.3-7 - Recovery of Overpayments

#### STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant filed an appeal from an Iowa Workforce Development decision dated March 24, 2006, reference 05, which held that the claimant was overpaid unemployment benefits in the amount of \$289.00, because he failed to report wages earned with Golden Furrow-Davis County for the 2-weeks ending February 11, 2006.

After due notice was issued, a hearing was scheduled for a telephone conference call on April 24,

2006. The claimant did not participate. Karen von Behren, Investigator, participated for Iowa Workforce Development, Investigation and Recovery.

#### FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony of the witness, and having examined all of the evidence in the record, finds: The claimant filed a claim for unemployment benefits with an effective date of November 27, 2005. The claimant claimed for and received unemployment benefits during the first quarter of 2006.

The department received information (ICER) that the claimant began employment in February 2006. A representative for Golden Furrow-Davis County Inc. reported to the department the claimant began employment on February 3, 2006. The representative reported the gross earnings paid to the claimant during the period from the week ending February 4, 2006 to week ending February 18, 2006. The department compared the employer's wage report against the claimant's claims for the same weeks.

The claimant claimed no work and wages for the 2-weeks ending February 11, 2006, and he received benefits of \$267 for each week. The employer reported the claimant earned gross wages of \$88 for the week ending February 4, and \$485 for the week ending February 11. Based on the employer's wage report, the claimant was entitled to a benefit of \$245 for the week ending February 4, and no benefit for the week ending February 11.

Investigator von Behren mailed a notice to the claimant dated March 10, 2006 regarding the \$289 overpayment, and she included the employer wage report information. The claimant did not respond. The Investigator concluded the claimant misrepresented his claim when he answered no to the question whether he worked the weeks at issue, and he failed to report his gross wages.

The claimant's wife called Investigator von Behren prior to the scheduled hearing, and she advised that her husband would not be participating in this matter.

#### REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The issue is whether the claimant is overpaid benefits \$289, and if so whether it is the result of misrepresentation.

#### **Iowa Code Section 96.16-4 provides:**

4. Misrepresentation. An individual who, by reason of the nondisclosure or misrepresentation by the individual or by another of a material fact, has received any sum as benefits under this chapter while any conditions for the receipt of benefits imposed by this chapter were not fulfilled in the individual's case, or while the individual was disqualified from receiving benefits, shall, in the discretion of the department, either be liable to have the sum deducted from any future benefits payable to the individual under this chapter or shall be liable to repay to the department for the unemployment compensation fund, a sum equal to the amount so received by the individual. If the department seeks to recover the amount of the benefits by having the individual pay to the department a sum equal to that amount, the department may file a lien with the county recorder in favor of the state on the individual's property and rights to property, whether real or personal. The amount of the lien shall be collected in a manner similar to the provisions for the collection of past-due contributions in section 96.14, subsection 3.

**Iowa Code Section 96.3-7 provides:**

7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits. 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 division of job service 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 division a sum equal to the overpayment.

If the division determines that an overpayment has been made, the charge for the overpayment against the employer's account shall be removed and the account shall be credited with an amount equal to the overpayment from the unemployment compensation trust fund and this credit shall include both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

The administrative law judge concludes that the claimant is overpaid benefits \$289 for the 2-weeks ending February 11, 2006 pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.16-4. The claimant misrepresented his claims by failing to acknowledge his work and report his wages while claiming for benefits.

**DECISION:**

The decision of the representative dated March 24, 2006, reference 05, is AFFIRMED. The claimant is overpaid benefits \$289 due to misrepresentation.

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