

IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
Unemployment Insurance Appeals Section
1000 East Grand—Des Moines, Iowa 50319
DECISION OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
68-0157 (7-97) – 3091078 - EI

SHEN C LAHEY
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WEST DES MOINES IA 50266

IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

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Appeal Number: 04A-UI-01687-R
OC: 11-02-03 R: 02
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, 4th 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.

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.

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

(Administrative Law Judge)

(Decision Dated & Mailed)

Section 96.3-7 – Overpayment of Benefits

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant, Shen C. Lahey, filed a timely appeal, 04A-UI-00262-R, from an unemployment insurance decision dated December 30, 2003, reference 01, denying unemployment insurance benefits to her. This appeal was also treated as an appeal of a decision by an authorized representative of Iowa Workforce Development dated January 30, 2004, reference 03, determining that the claimant was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits. That decision is the subject of this appeal. After due notice was issued for appeal 04A-UI-00262-R, an in-person hearing was held in Des Moines, Iowa, on February 16, 2004 with the claimant participating. The claimant was represented by Michelle Engler, Attorney at Law. This appeal was consolidated with appeal 04A-UI-00262-R for the purposes of the hearing with the consent of the parties. Although there is no employer or respondent noticed in this appeal, the employer

in the appeal 04A-UI-00262-R, which was consolidated with this appeal, Salon Monet, Inc., doing business as Salon Monet, participated by Kent McLaughlin, Owner. Employer's Exhibits 1 through 4 and Department Exhibit 1 were admitted into evidence. The administrative law judge takes official notice of Iowa Workforce Development Department unemployment insurance records for the claimant. No notice of this appeal concerning an overpayment of unemployment insurance benefits was sent to the parties; the parties consented to permit the administrative law judge to take evidence on and decide, if necessary, whether the claimant was overpaid unemployment insurance benefits, which is the subject of this appeal, and they waived further notice of that issue.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having heard the testimony of the witnesses and having examined all of the evidence in the record, including Employer's Exhibits 1 through 4 and Department Exhibit 1, the administrative law judge finds: The claimant filed for unemployment insurance benefits effective November 2, 2003 and began receiving benefits which continued thereafter. The claimant received unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,800.00 as follows: \$300.00 per week for six weeks from benefit week ending November 8, 2003 to benefit week ending December 13, 2003. This amount is now shown as overpaid and is the subject of this appeal. In a decision in appeal 04A-UI-00262-R, the administrative law judge concluded that the claimant was not entitled to receive such unemployment insurance benefits because her separation from her employer, Salon Monet, Inc., doing business as Salon Monet, was disqualifying.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The question presented in this appeal is whether the claimant is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,800.00 for six weeks from benefit week ending November 8, 2003 to and including benefit week ending December 13, 2003. The administrative law judge concludes that the claimant is overpaid that amount for that period.

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 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.

If the department 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 has received unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,800.00 since separating from her employer, Salon Monet, Inc., doing business as Salon Monet, on or about November 4, 2003 and filing for such benefits effective November 2, 2003. In appeal 04A-UI-00262-R, the administrative law judge concluded that the claimant was not entitled to receive such benefits because her separation from her employer was disqualifying. Accordingly, the administrative law judge concludes that

the claimant has received unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,800.00 to which she is not entitled and she is, therefore, overpaid such benefits. The administrative law judge further concludes that these benefits must be recovered in accordance with the provisions of Iowa law.

DECISION:

The representative's decision of January 30, 2004, reference 03, is affirmed. The claimant, Shen C. Lahey, is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in the amount of \$1,800.00 for six weeks from and including benefit week ending November 8, 2003 to and including benefit week ending December 13, 2003.

tjc/b