

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

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**BENJAMIN M GONZALEZ**  
Claimant

**APPEAL 22A-UI-17159-DZ-T**  
**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE**  
**DECISION**

**IOWA WORKFORCE  
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

**OC: 07/03/22**  
**Claimant: Appellant (2)**

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Iowa Code § 96.3(7) – Recovery of Benefit Overpayment

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

Benjamin M. Gonzalez, the claimant/appellant filed an appeal from the Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) September 12, 2022 (reference 03) unemployment insurance (UI) decision that concluded he was overpaid REGULAR (state) UI benefits in the gross amount of \$551.00 for the week of July 3-9, 2022. The parties were properly notified about the hearing. A telephone hearing was held on October 13, 2022. Appeals 22A-UI-17158-DZ-T, and 22A-UI-17159-DZ-T were heard together and formed one hearing record. Mr. Gonzalez participated personally. The department did not participate in the hearing. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative record.

**ISSUE:**

Has Mr. Gonzalez been overpaid REGULAR (state) UI benefits for the week of July 3-9, 2022?

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

Having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Mr. Gonzalez filed an initial claim for REGULAR (state) UI benefits effective July 3, 2022. Mr. Gonzalez filed a weekly UI claim and IWD paid him REGULAR (state) UI benefits in the gross amount of \$551.00 for the week of July 3-9, 2022.

Almost two months later, after IWD had already sent him REGULAR (state) UI benefits, IWD issued an August 31, 2022 (reference 02) UI decision finding Mr. Gonzalez not eligible for REGULAR (state) UI benefits as of July 3, 2022 because IWD records indicated that he was still employed in his job for the same hours and pay as in his original contract of hire. Mr. Gonzalez appealed that UI decision. The administrative law judge's decision in Appeal 22A-UI-17158-DZ-T reversed the reference 02 UI decision. That meant Mr. Gonzalez is eligible for REGULAR (state) UI for the week of July 3-9, 2022.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes as follows:

Iowa Code §96.3(7) provides, in pertinent part:

*7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits.*

a. 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.

b. (1) (a) 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.

Mr. Gonzalez has not been overpaid REGULAR (state) UI benefits for the week of July 3-9, 2022. Mr. Gonzalez has not been overpaid REGULAR (state) UI benefits because he is eligible to receive REGULAR (state) UI benefits for that week per the administrative law judge's decision in Appeal 22A-UI-17158-DZ-T.

**DECISION:**

The September 12, 2022, (reference 03) UI decision is REVERSED. Mr. Gonzalez has not been overpaid REGULAR (state) UI benefits for the week of July 3-9, 2022.



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Daniel Zeno  
Administrative Law Judge

October 19, 2022  
Decision Dated and Mailed

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**APPEAL RIGHTS.** If you disagree with this 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**

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 adquiriera 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.