IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS BUREAU

CORY E BROZEK

Claimant

APPEAL NO. 19A-UI-07744-JE-T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 08/04/19

Claimant: Appellant (2)

871 IAC 24.2(1)e - Failure to Report Iowa Code § 96.4-3 - Able and Available for Work

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The claimant appealed an unemployment insurance decision dated September 26, 2019, (reference 07), which denied benefits as of September 22, 2019, due to the claimant's failure to report as directed. After a hearing notice was mailed to the party's last-known address of record, a telephone hearing was held on October 23, 2019. The claimant participated in the hearing.

ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant failed to report as directed and does not meet the availability requirements of the law.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The Department sent the claimant a letter directing him to report to a Workforce Representative September 23, 2019, at 9:10 a.m. The claimant was moving that week and was in a meeting about foreclosure. When he realized he had not received the call it was 11:00 a.m. and thought he would receive the call whenever the meeting with the Department was scheduled but missed it. He received a message to contact the Department by 9:25 a.m. and because it was later than that he did not call back and his claim was locked.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

The issue is whether the claimant failed to report as directed. For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant has not established a good cause reason for having failed to report as directed.

A claimant will be disqualified as unavailable for work if he fails to report as directed to lowa Workforce Development in response to the notice that was mailed to him. See 871 IAC 24.23(11).

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.23(11) provides:

Availability disqualifications. The following are reasons for a claimant being disqualified for being unavailable for work.

(11) Failure to report as directed to workforce development in response to the notice which was mailed to the claimant will result in the claimant being deemed not to meet the availability requirements.

871 IAC 24.2(1)e provides:

e. In order to maintain continuing eligibility for benefits during any continuous period of unemployment, an individual shall report as directed to do so by an authorized representative of the department. If the individual has moved to another locality, the individual may register and report in person at a workforce development center at the time previously specified for the reporting.

The method of reporting and the payment of benefits, provided the individual is otherwise eligible, shall be on a biweekly basis by mail if the claimant files a Form 60-0151.

The method of reporting shall be weekly if a voice response continued claim is filed, unless otherwise directed by an authorized representative of the department. An individual who files a voice response continued claim will have the benefit payment automatically deposited weekly in the individual's financial institution's account or be paid by the mailing of a warrant on a biweekly basis.

In order for an individual to receive payment by direct deposit, the individual must provide the department with the appropriate bank routing code number and a checking or savings account number.

The department retains the ultimate authority to choose the method of reporting and payment.

The administrative law judge concludes the claimant has provided a good cause reason for his failure to respond to the Notice to Report. Therefore, benefits are allowed effective the week ending September 28, 2019.

DECISION:

The unemployment insurance decision dated September 26, 2019, (reference 07), is reversed.
The claimant did fail to report as directed but provided a good cause reason for failing to do so.
Benefits are allowed effective the week ending September 28, 2019, provided the claimant is
otherwise eligible.

Julie Elder Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

je/scn