

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT  
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

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**DENEEN AHUMADA**  
Claimant

**IOWA YEARLY**  
Employer

**APPEAL NO. 15A-UI-04290-B2T**

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE  
DECISION**

**OC: 03/08/15**  
**Claimant: Appellant (1)**

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Iowa Code § 96.19(18)(a)(6)(a)&(b)

**STATEMENT OF THE CASE:**

Claimant filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated April 9, 2015, reference 01, which held claimant ineligible to have wages added to her unemployment insurance. After due notice, a hearing was scheduled for and held on May 8, 2015. Claimant participated. Employer was sent notice of hearing, but said notice was returned to IWD as undeliverable. Employer failed to respond to the hearing notice and did not participate.

**ISSUE:**

The issue in this matter is whether claimant earned insured wages from a religious organization.

**FINDINGS OF FACT:**

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds: As claimant was the only participant in the hearing, all findings of fact are gleaned from claimant's testimony. Claimant last worked for employer in January of 2015 prior to her going into the hospital. Claimant stated that employer was a religious organization, or an association of churches.

**REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:**

The administrative law judge holds that the evidence has established that claimant was working for a religious organization. For purposes of the Iowa Code chapter 96 concerning Unemployment Security and Unemployment Compensation, services performed for a religious organization is specifically excluded from employment under Iowa Code § 96.19(18)(a)(6)(a)&(b). As such activities are not "employment" under the Iowa Code, the wages earned are not insured wages, and claimant is not eligible to receive credit for the wages earned working for a religious organization.

**DECISION:**

The decision of the representative dated April 6, 2015, reference 01, is affirmed. Claimant's request to have the wages earned while working for a religious organization added to her claim is denied.

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Blair A. Bennett  
Administrative Law Judge

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Decision Dated and Mailed

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