

**BEFORE THE
EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD
Lucas State Office Building
Fourth floor
Des Moines, Iowa 50319**

MATTHEW J COUNTRYMAN

Claimant

and

AAA BUDGET ENVIRONMENTAL INC

Employer

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HEARING NUMBER: 16B-UI-00251

**EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD
DECISION**

SECTION: 10A.601 Employment Appeal Board Review

D E C I S I O N

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The notice of hearing in this matter was mailed January 13, 2016. The notice set a hearing for January 28, 2016. The Employer contacted the agency to provide a telephone number at which it could be reached for the hearing. On the day of the hearing, however, the Employer did not appear for or participate in the hearing. The reason the Employer did not appear is because the Employer did not receive the call. The Employer did not know the hearing was taking place.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 10A.601(4) (2015) provides:

4. Appeal board review. The appeal board may on its own motion affirm, modify, or set aside any decision of a administrative law judge on the basis of the evidence previously submitted in such case, or direct the taking of additional evidence, or may permit any of the parties to such decision to initiate further appeals before it. The appeal board shall permit such further appeal by any of the parties interested in a decision of an administrative law judge and by the representative whose decision has been overruled or modified by the administrative law judge. The appeal board shall review the case pursuant to rules adopted by the appeal board. The appeal board shall promptly notify the interested parties of its findings and decision.

Here the Employer did not participate in the hearing through no fault of the Employer. The Employer complied with the notice instructions by providing a telephone, but did not receive the call to participate. The Employer has shown its intention to follow through with the appeal process, and has established good cause for his nonparticipation. For this reason, the matter will be remanded for another hearing before an administrative law judge.

DECISION:

The decision of the administrative law judge dated January 28, 2016 is not vacated and remains in force unless and until the Department makes a differing determination pursuant to this remand. This matter is remanded to an administrative law judge in the Workforce Development Center, Appeals Section. The administrative law judge shall conduct a hearing following due notice. After the hearing, the administrative law judge shall issue a decision which provides the parties appeal rights. This decision of the administrative law judge shall be based upon that evidence, including testimony and exhibits, which is admitted in the new hearing, and may not be based on evidence adduced during the first hearing unless that evidence from the first hearing is made part of the record during the second hearing.

Kim D. Schmett

Ashley R. Koopmans

James M. Strohman

AMG/fnv