

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

68-0157 (9-06) - 3091078 - EI

GREGORY B VOS

Claimant

APPEAL NO. 09A-UI-00309-MT

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

**MAHASKA COUNTY HABITAT
FOR HUMANITY**

Employer

**OC: 06/01/08 R: 03
Claimant: Respondent (2R)**

Section 96.19-38-a & b – Total and Partial Unemployment
Section 96.7-2-a(2) – Same Base Period Employment
871 IAC 24.22(2)f – Part-Time Worker – Able and Available
Section 96.3-7 – Recovery of Overpayment of Benefits

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Employer filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated January 2, 2009, reference 03, which held claimant able and available for work. After due notice, a telephone conference hearing was scheduled for and held on January 30, 2009. Employer participated by Angela Shaw, President of the Board. Claimant failed to respond to the hearing notice and did not participate. Exhibit One was admitted into evidence

ISSUE:

The issues are whether claimant is still employed at the same hours and wages and partially unemployed. The final issue is whether claimant is overpaid unemployment benefits.

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The claimant currently works for, a non base period employer, part time under the same terms and conditions as contemplated in the original contract of hire. Claimant also has other wages in the base period history. Claimant started work for this employer June 1, 2008. Claimant's original claim date is June 1, 2008. Claimant did not work for this employer during the base period.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant is not partially unemployed and the employer is relieved of benefit charges.

Iowa Code section 96.19-38 provides:

"Total and partial unemployment".

a. An individual shall be deemed "totally unemployed" in any week with respect to which no wages are payable to the individual and during which the individual performs no services.

b. An individual shall be deemed partially unemployed in any week in which, while employed at the individual's then regular job, the individual works less than the regular full-time week and in which the individual earns less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars.

An individual shall be deemed partially unemployed in any week in which the individual, having been separated from the individual's regular job, earns at odd jobs less than the individual's weekly benefit amount plus fifteen dollars.

c. An individual shall be deemed temporarily unemployed if for a period, verified by the department, not to exceed four consecutive weeks, the individual is unemployed due to a plant shutdown, vacation, inventory, lack of work or emergency from the individual's regular job or trade in which the individual worked full-time and will again work full-time, if the individual's employment, although temporarily suspended, has not been terminated.

Iowa Code section 96.7-2-a(2) provides:

2. Contribution rates based on benefit experience.

a. (2) The amount of regular benefits plus fifty percent of the amount of extended benefits paid to an eligible individual shall be charged against the account of the employers in the base period in the inverse chronological order in which the employment of the individual occurred.

However, if the individual to whom the benefits are paid is in the employ of a base period employer at the time the individual is receiving the benefits, and the individual is receiving the same employment from the employer that the individual received during the individual's base period, benefits paid to the individual shall not be charged against the account of the employer. This provision applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding subparagraph (3) and section 96.8, subsection 5.

An employer's account shall not be charged with benefits paid to an individual who left the work of the employer voluntarily without good cause attributable to the employer or to an individual who was discharged for misconduct in connection with the individual's employment, or to an individual who failed without good cause, either to apply for available, suitable work or to accept suitable work with that employer, but shall be charged to the unemployment compensation fund. This paragraph applies to both contributory and reimbursable employers, notwithstanding section 96.8, subsection 5.

The amount of benefits paid to an individual, which is solely due to wage credits considered to be in an individual's base period due to the exclusion and substitution of calendar quarters from the individual's base period under section 96.23, shall be

charged against the account of the employer responsible for paying the workers' compensation benefits for temporary total disability or during a healing period under section 85.33, section 85.34, subsection 1, or section 85A.17, or responsible for paying indemnity insurance benefits.

871 IAC 23.43(4)a provides in part:

(4) Supplemental employment.

a. An individual, who has been separated with cause attributable to the regular employer and who remains in the employ of the individual's part-time, base period employer, continues to be eligible for benefits as long as the individual is receiving the same employment from the part-time employer that the individual received during the base period. The part-time employer's account, including the reimbursable employer's account, may be relieved of benefit charges....

Because the claimant is currently employed part time with a non base period employer, claimant is not considered partially unemployed. Benefits are denied.

The next issue concerns an overpayment of unemployment insurance benefits.

Iowa Code section 96.3-7, as amended in 2008, provides:

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) 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. However, provided the benefits were not received as the result of fraud or willful misrepresentation by the individual, benefits shall not be recovered from an individual if the employer did not participate in the initial determination to award benefits pursuant to section 96.6, subsection 2, and an overpayment occurred because of a subsequent reversal on appeal regarding the issue of the individual's separation from employment. The employer shall not be charged with the benefits.

(2) An accounting firm, agent, unemployment insurance accounting firm, or other entity that represents an employer in unemployment claim matters and demonstrates a continuous pattern of failing to participate in the initial determinations to award benefits, as determined and defined by rule by the department, shall be denied permission by the department to represent any employers in unemployment insurance matters. This subparagraph does not apply to attorneys or counselors admitted to practice in the courts of this state pursuant to section 602.10101.

This matter is remanded to the claims section for determination of an overpayment.

DECISION:

The January 2, 2009, reference 03, decision is reversed and remanded. The claimant is not partially unemployed and benefits are withheld. The account of the current part-time employer shall not be charged. This matter is remanded to claims section for determination of overpayment.

Marlon Mormann
Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

mdm/pjs