IOWA DEPARTMENT OF INSPECTIONS AND APPEALS ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS DIVISIONS. UI APPEALS BUREAU

MINANI FURAHA Claimant **APPEAL 22A-UI-17271-DZ-T**

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

IOWA WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

OC: 05/15/22

Claimant: Appellant (1)

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

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Minani Furaha, the claimant/appellant, filed an appeal from the Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) September 9, 2022 (reference 09) unemployment insurance (UI) decision that concluded she was overpaid REGULAR (state) UI benefits in the gross amount of \$159.00 for the week of August 7-13, 2022. IWD concluded that Ms. Furaha was overpaid the \$159.00 because the IWD August 29, 2022 (reference 05) UI decision had found Ms. Furaha not eligible for benefits for that week even though IWD had already sent her the benefits for that week. A telephone hearing was held on October 18, 2022. Appeals 22A-UI-17266-DZ-T, 22A-UI-17267-DZ-T, 22A-UI-17268-DZ-T, 22A-UI-17269-DZ-T, 22A-UI-17270-DZ-T, and 22A-UI-17271-DZ-T were heard together and formed one hearing record. Ms. Furaha participated personally through a Swahili CTS Language Link interpreter. The department participated through Jennifer Miller, career planner. The administrative law judge took official notice of the administrative record. Department's Exhibit 1 was admitted as evidence.

ISSUE:

Has Ms. Furaha been overpaid REGULAR (state) UI benefits for the week of August 7-13, 2022?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

Having reviewed the evidence in the record, the administrative law judge finds: Ms. Furaha filed an initial claim for REGULAR (state) UI benefits effective May 15, 2022. In relevant part, Ms. Furaha filed a weekly UI claim for the week of August 7-13, 2022. IWD paid Ms. Furaha REGULAR (state) UI benefits in the gross amount of \$159.00 for that week.

Two weeks later, after IWD had already sent her REGULAR (state) UI benefits, IWD issued an August 29, 2022 (reference 05) UI decision finding Ms. Furaha not eligible for REGULAR (state) UI benefits for the week of August 7-13, 2022 because IWD records showed that she did not meet the reemployment activities (work search) requirement for that week. Ms. Furaha appealed that UI decision. The administrative law judge's decision in Appeal 22A-UI-17268-DZ-

T affirmed the reference 05 UI decision. That meant Ms. Furaha is not eligible for REGULAR (state) UI for the week of August 7-13, 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.

Ms. Furaha has been overpaid REGULAR (state) UI benefits in the gross amount of \$159.00 for the week of August 7-13, 2022. Ms. Furaha has been overpaid REGULAR (state) UI benefits because she is not eligible to receive REGULAR (state) UI benefits for that week per the administrative law judge's decision in Appeal 22A-UI-17268-DZ-T. These benefits should be repaid.

DECISION:

The September 9, 2022, (reference 09) UI decision is AFFRIMED. Ms. Furaha has been overpaid REGULAR (state) UI benefits in the gross amount of \$159.00 for the week of August 7-13, 2022. These benefits must be repaid.

Daniel Zeno

Administrative Law Judge

October 20, 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 4th Floor – Lucas Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319 Fax: (515)281-7191 Online: 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.

<u>2.</u> 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 <u>file a petition for judicial</u> review in <u>District Court</u> within thirty (30) days after the decision becomes final. Additional information on how to file a petition can be found at lowa 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:

<u>1. Apelar a la Junta de Apelaciones de Empleo</u> 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.

<u>2.</u> 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 <u>presentar una petición de revisión judicial en el Tribunal de Distrit</u>o dentro de los treinta (30) días después de que la decisión adquiera firmeza. Puede encontrar información adicional sobre cómo presentar una petición en el Código de lowa §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.