

## SUMMARY STATEMENT

*Morley v. IDOL*  
Docket No. 49510

Moranda Morley lost one of her two jobs due to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020. Morley applied for and received state unemployment compensation benefits and federal pandemic unemployment assistance through the Idaho Department of Labor. However, it was later determined that Morley was ineligible for benefits because she was still employed full-time at her other job.

Morley appealed her determination of ineligibility to the Appeals Bureau of the Idaho Department of Labor which affirmed her ineligibility. Morley then appealed to the Idaho Industrial Commission (the “Commission”), which dismissed Morley’s initial appeal and later denied her request for reconsideration, finding both to be untimely. Morley then appealed to the Idaho Supreme Court. However, Morley’s notice of appeal was timely only as to the denial of her request for reconsideration. Accordingly, the Court issued an order dismissing Morley’s appeal as to the untimely issues. The case proceeded as an appeal of the denial of reconsideration only.

Morley asked the Court to excuse her failure to comply with the relevant rules because she misunderstood them and acted in good faith based on her misunderstanding. The Court declined Morley’s invitation to construe the rules consistent with her misunderstanding. The Court reiterated that “pro se litigants are ‘held to the same standards and rules as those represented by an attorney.’” *Sheehan v. Sun Valley Co.*, 171 Idaho 248, 519 P.3d 1188, 1192 (2022) (quoting *Suitts v. Nix*, 141 Idaho 706, 709, 117 P.3d 120, 123 (2005)). The Court noted that this includes “timely filing requirements.” *Id.* Since Morley’s request for reconsideration was untimely, the Idaho Supreme Court affirmed the Commission’s order denying reconsideration.

***\*\*\*This summary constitutes no part of the opinion of the Court, but has been prepared by court staff for the convenience of the public.\*\*\****