### IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS

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

ROBIN D GETTING Claimant

# APPEAL NO. 08A-UI-05614-S2T

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

# STREAM INTERNATIONAL INC

Employer

OC: 05/11/08 R: 01 Claimant: Respondent (2)

Section 96.5-1 – Voluntary Leaving Section 96.3-7 – Overpayment

### STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

The employer filed a timely appeal from the June 10, 2008, reference 01, decision that allowed benefits. After due notice was issued, a telephone conference hearing was held on July 1, 2008. The claimant did not provide a telephone number to be reached and, therefore, did not participate in the hearing. The employer participated through Jacqueline Kurtz, Human Resources Recruiter, and Andrew Eberhardt, Team Operations Manager.

#### ISSUE:

The issue is whether the claimant voluntarily quit work without good cause attributable to the employer.

## FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds that: The claimant was hired on November 27, 2007, as a full-time technical support representative. On March 28, 2008, the claimant gave two weeks' written notice that his last day of work would be April 11, 2008, because he was moving to Omaha, Nebraska. Later the claimant asked for days off to get ready for the move. The employer denied the claimant's request for time off from work. The claimant said that March 28, 2008, would have to be his last day of work. Continued work was available had the claimant not resigned.

## REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow the administrative law judge concludes the claimant voluntarily quit work without good cause attributable to the employer.

Iowa Code section 96.5-1 provides:

An individual shall be disqualified for benefits:

1. Voluntary quitting. If the individual has left work voluntarily without good cause attributable to the individual's employer, if so found by the department.

871 IAC 24.25(2) provides:

Voluntary quit without good cause. In general, a voluntary quit means discontinuing the employment because the employee no longer desires to remain in the relationship of an employee with the employer from whom the employee has separated. The employer has the burden of proving that the claimant is disqualified for benefits pursuant to Iowa Code section 96.5. However, the claimant has the initial burden to produce evidence that the claimant is not disqualified for benefits in cases involving Iowa Code section 96.5, subsection (1), paragraphs "a" through "i," and subsection 10. The following reasons for a voluntary quit shall be presumed to be without good cause attributable to the employer:

(2) The claimant moved to a different locality.

A voluntary leaving of employment requires an intention to terminate the employment relationship accompanied by an overt act of carrying out that intention. Local Lodge #1426 v. <u>Wilson Trailer</u>, 289 N.W.2d 608, 612 (Iowa 1980). The claimant's intention to voluntarily leave work was evidenced by his words and actions. He told the employer he was quitting and stopped appearing for work. When an employee stops appearing for work because he is moving to another location, his leaving is without good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant stopped appearing for work because he was moving to Omaha, Nebraska. His leaving was without good cause attributable to the employer. The claimant voluntarily quit without good cause attributable to the employer.

Iowa Code section 96.3-7 provides:

7. Recovery of overpayment of benefits. 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.

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.

Because the claimant's separation was disqualifying, benefits were paid to which the claimant was not entitled. Those benefits must be recovered in accordance with the provisions of Iowa law.

## **DECISION:**

The June 10, 2008, reference 01, representative's decision is reversed. The claimant voluntarily left work without good cause attributable to the employer. Benefits are withheld until the claimant has worked in and has been paid wages for insured work equal ten times the claimant's weekly benefit amount, provided the claimant is otherwise eligible. The claimant is overpaid unemployment insurance benefits in an amount of \$1,176.00.

Beth A. Scheetz Administrative Law Judge

Decision Dated and Mailed

bas/pjs