

**IOWA WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE APPEALS**

MATTHEW C KARSTEN
Claimant

APPEAL 20A-UI-12378-DG-T

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
DECISION**

CITY OF NEWTON
Employer

**OC: 05/17/20
Claimant: Appellant (2)**

Iowa Code § 96.5(1) – Voluntary Quitting
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.26(19) – Voluntary Quitting – Spot Jobs/Casual Labor
Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.26(22) – Voluntary Quitting – Specific Period of Time

STATEMENT OF THE CASE:

Claimant filed an appeal from a decision of a representative dated October 1, 2020, (reference 03) that held claimant ineligible for unemployment insurance benefits. After due notice, a hearing was scheduled for and held on December 7, 2020. Claimant participated. Employer failed to respond to the hearing notice and did not participate.

ISSUE:

The issue in this matter is whether claimant quit for good cause attributable to employer?

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The administrative law judge, having heard the testimony and considered all of the evidence in the record, finds: Claimant last worked for employer on August 31, 2019. Claimant left after he had fulfilled the terms of his work assignment.

Claimant began working for employer as a pool manager in May 2019. Claimant was hired to work during the summer only. Claimant was told that his work assignment would be over at the end of the pool season. He completed the assignment as agreed upon by the parties on August 31, 2019.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

For the reasons that follow, the administrative law judge concludes the claimant's separation was not the result of a disqualifying reason.

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.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.26(19) provides:

Voluntary quit with good cause attributable to the employer and separations not considered to be voluntary quits. The following are reasons for a claimant leaving employment with good cause attributable to the employer:

(19) The claimant was employed on a temporary basis for assignment to spot jobs or casual labor work and fulfilled the contract of hire when each of the jobs was completed. An election not to report for a new assignment to work shall not be construed as a voluntary leaving of employment. The issue of a refusal of an offer of suitable work shall be adjudicated when an offer of work is made by the former employer. The provisions of Iowa Code section 96.5(3) and rule 24.24(96) are controlling in the determination of suitability of work. However, this subrule shall not apply to substitute school employees who are subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 96.4(5) which denies benefits that are based on service in an educational institution when the individual declines or refuses to accept a new contract or reasonable assurance of continued employment status. Under this circumstance, the substitute school employee shall be considered to have voluntarily quit employment.

Iowa Admin. Code r. 871-24.26(22) provides:

Voluntary quit with good cause attributable to the employer and separations not considered to be voluntary quits. The following are reasons for a claimant leaving employment with good cause attributable to the employer:

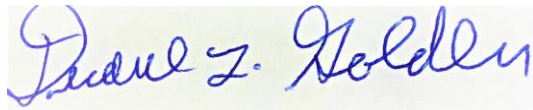
(22) The claimant was hired for a specific period of time and completed the contract of hire by working until this specific period of time had lapsed. However, this subrule shall not apply to substitute school employees who are subject to the provisions of Iowa Code section 96.4(5) which denies benefits that are based on service in an educational institution when the individual declines or refuses to accept a new contract or reasonable assurance of continued employment status. Under this circumstance, the substitute school employees shall be considered to have voluntarily quit employment.

Inasmuch as the claimant completed the contract or terms of hire with the employer as contemplated, no disqualification is imposed.

Note to Claimant: If this decision determines you are not eligible for regular unemployment insurance benefits and you disagree with this decision, you may file an appeal to the Employment Appeal Board by following the instructions on the first page of this decision. Individuals who do not qualify for regular unemployment insurance benefits, but who are currently unemployed for reasons related to COVID-19 may qualify for Pandemic Unemployment Assistance (PUA). **You will need to apply for PUA to determine your eligibility under the program.** Additional information on how to apply for PUA can be found at <https://www.iowaworkforcedevelopment.gov/pua-information>. If this decision becomes final, or if you are not eligible for PUA, you may have an overpayment of benefits.

DECISION:

The October 1, 2020, (reference 03), unemployment insurance decision is reversed. The claimant's separation from employment was for no disqualifying reason. Benefits are allowed, provided he is otherwise eligible.



Duane L. Golden
Administrative Law Judge

December 16, 2020
Decision Dated and Mailed

dlg/mh